



To the Courteus

Readers.



Like as the Load-stone pointeth at
the immoucable poles of Heauen,
and will not lye still otherwise: so
true generous and noble mindes
euer ayme at vertue, and esteeme
their noble houses by them halfe
stayned, vnlesse in valorous pro-
wesse, wise policies, and kinde courtesies, they equal
themselues to, (if not surpasse) the most famous of
their Progenitors, yea of all wherof memoriall is
extant: by which their worthe endeavors they liue
in most great honourable reputation in this world,
and after do liue by fame euermore. Among
which famous worthies, this *Edmond Spenser*
here mentioned, deserueth not the least praise or price.
And if any will alledge, that in this Poeticall praising
of him, there be many fictions (as, *Portus et pulchritudo
per magna conceditur licentia*) let such learne to reade
this manner of bookes, as *Socrates* wished women
to use their looking glasses; namely, faire women,
to looke on their glasses, to beware that their
good maners may shine as well as their beautie, and

C
Douce
R. 126.

In the preface to Warner's "Syrinx" where it is said that
"Honour's conquest" was stolen from him.

24.9.12

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in most great honourable reputation in this world,
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which famous worthies, this *Edmond Spenser*
here mentioned, deserueth not the least praise or price.
And if any will alleage, that in this Poeticall praising
of him, there be many fictions (as, *Poetis et pillaribus
permagna conceditur licentia*) let such learne to reade
this manner of bookes, as *Socrates* wished women
to view their looking glasses; namely, faire women,
to looke on their glasses, to beware that their
good manners may shine as well as their beautie, and

ill-fauoured women, to indeuour that their inward
vertues might make gracious theyr outward defor-
mities. So let Gentlemen by reading these bookes
obserue therein onely those things, the practise
whereof may innoble them more and more, and
the baser and cowardly sort, here learne onely what
may promote them: And thus wishing the ende of
all thy reading to bee to attaine true vertue, I wish
thee an eternall reward of glorie. Farewell.

H. R.





THE MOST DE- lectable and pleasant Hy-

storie, of the Illustrious and most puif-
fant Prince, *Edward*, Knight of the
holie Crosse of Ierusalem.

The first Chapter.



It hath bene sayde (courtious Gentle-
men) in the first part of this Hystorie,
that this most famous Prince, our home
born Countryman, hauing finished with
great solemnitie, his marriage, to the
good content of himselfe, and more en-
crease of ioy to his Ladie Valia, ma-
king small stay, as desirous to see the ho-
lie place where our Saviour was aliue and dead, giuing the
Thracian king most honourable thanks for their great enter-
tainment, & honoꝝ done him and his Princes at their marriage,
embarked first his Ladie in a small Battia, which came from
Marceelas, which of purpose he freighted for Ceneto Veccha,
committing the care of her, & her seruant Alinda, to the good
regard of the Frier who married them. Which done, hauing
well intreated the maister, mariners, and marchants, for
their more fauour in their voyage, the winde blowing a fre-
leuant, they weighed their Anchors, set saile, and betooke them-
selues to the mercies of the raging Billowes.

What sorrowfull parting was betwene them, & what
leaving that to their iudgement, which on the like iudgement, he,

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depart with their sweete loves. To recount unto you the tra-
uaile of our beloued Knight to the holy lande, of which hee
had great care, hauing imbarqued his Ladie with her fol-
lowers, taking a most reuerend farewell of the King, the
Quene, and the Princesse Argentino, with all the Peeres
of their Countrey, who both honoured and loued him, hee
betooke himselfe to seauaile, not vnblamented of all the Court,
whose loue was so vnitied vnto him, that it seemed theye spi-
rits to part with their bodies at his bidding farewell. But as
all things must haue ende, so had the Knight made an ende of
giving the kinde Adieu to that Countrey: and onely accom-
panied with his Page, well mounted, hee tooke his iourney
first for Peloponnesse, an auncient Cittie of Greece, which
after many a wearie iourney, passing the dangerous moun-
taines, and vncomly places inhabited but of rauening and
most ouglie beastes, he recovered that Citie of fame, where he
had of the Viceroy most honourable entertainment, with all
shewes of loue and kindnesse that hee could require: where
resting himselfe after his wearie trauailes, we leaue him for a
time, to recount vnto you the successe of the Princesse Vallia,
in her iourney by sea.

CHAP. II.

How Argentino conforthing with a Knight of her Coun-
trei to make the Ladie Vallia away, who assailed her at
Sea, and what chaunced her.



The prince, whose loue Argentino, daugh-
ter to the Thracian King by all meanes
sought to obtaine, burned in such reidou-
se and hate, wanting her desire, that all
her mind and studie was, by some death
or other, to quite her of her reputation, the
lovelie Ladie Vallia, thinking thereby
to gaine the loue of her knight, which was

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more desired then the woordes goods, and lifting her weene
but, which was apt inough to manie diuelish deuises, and fin-
ding none so perfect, which shee durst to practise, flaming with
reuenge to finish her intended euill, betought her of a knight
in her fathers Court, whose countenance and shewes of kind-
nesse perswaded her, he intended some singular affection vn-
to her. Of this knight, her thoughts assured her: wherefore,
casting from her all regarde of honour, required in such of so
high esteeme: she sent for the knight, commanding her mes-
senger to haile him vnto her presence. In which, no time was delai-
ed of either part. For the Messenger no sooner had deliuered the
princes pleasure, but the knight whose affections it was for what
went to her loue, as one new risen from a dreame, mayed to be-
hold such visions, as often in sleep appeareth, reuelling himselfe,
without any questions demanding, hasteneth forth with such speed
as he could best vse, to her presence, where he with great fauour,
and vntwonted courtesies, she kindly entertained, vsing manie
pleasing speeches, to inchaunt him to effect her diuelish will.
Of all which, when he had with such kinde thanks requited
her, and that shee felt the tole had taken some conceit of her
liking, cunningly to see howe this potion would worke, shee
sayeth:

Siegnur Gualintie, so that I haue noted the weak conditions
of men, and far by experience the small account they
haue of their wordes, and faithfull promise, I dare not say what
I would, wherefore, I am enforced to conceale in secret, that
which to the death consumeth mee. And therefore withall,
feigning a womanish kinde of heauinesse, pouring forth a
fewe dissimbling teares, like the Crocadill, to effect her inten-
ded euill, she ceaseth her speech. Gualintie which sawe these
vntexpected motions, amazed thereat, could not suddenly con-
ceive what these motions might intend, yet ayming at her pas-
sion, which he imagined was some discontent, he saith.

Honoured Princesse, what occasions your grace hath to
carrie so hard opinions of mens constancie, it were too dangerous
matter for me to question, yet would your good thoughts not be

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be such of your humble servant, as I desire it should, and as my will is at your excellent hands to deserve, I doubt not then but my loyaltie should recover those lost opinions you have of mens constancie: for performance whereof, in all faythfull dutie, I humbly offer the faith of a knight.

The Princesse Argentine, glad to find the Gentleman in so good a humor, was easily drawne to beleue what he promised. And therefore without standing on fearnes of light beleefe, she sayde. Gentle knight, whose worde I hold so firme, as the surest bands, I accept your kinde proffer of courtesie, for which, by that true sayth which honour ought to maintaine, your performance shall bee so requited, as thou shalt ever bee honoured for the same, and thy posteritie. Therefore what I intend, I will not can no longer conceale from thee.

I know (gentle knight) and with that a sigh drawing teares, restrained her dissembling speech, so that she could not utter what she had to say, yet putting off she proceeds: Let it bee knowne to thee, most honoured knight, those abuses offered me in our owne Court, by that disloyall and uniuert knight of the holy Crosse, who making shewes of loue vnto mee, manie times courted me with his false intended suites, as well as by his flattering teares of no other intent, as I find now by iust proofe, but to dishonour me and my father: else after so manie protestations, vowes, and solemn oathes taken, his loyall affection to me was such, as no torment nor sorrow, nor no turmoyle whatsoever, could remove from his false and dissembling heart: he would not before my face in presence of my gracious father, and his most noble Peeres, haue conioyned himselfe in marriage with a rannagate Damzell, a begger, a common traveller, and therefore no better then a common courtesan, by his disgrace, so disgracing mee, as the remembrance thereof can neuer be rooted from my faithfull heart, nor neuer shall my bodie take his naturall sustenance, untill I be by some meanes or other, reuenged on him and her, that thus most perniciously shewed himselfe, the most uniuert knight of the world. And that nation, the which doubtlesse by some enchan-

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fed felles hath worne his leue from me, to her liking, which otherwise she could neuer haue done.

This (good knight quoth she,) my long protestations might wearie thee: but pardon my fault, and imagine howe deare I holde thee, that amongst all the knights of my fathers Court, haue made choise of you, to participate with mee of my great heauinesse: for which, if thou canst but set downe a reuenge sufficient for them, but chiefly for that enchanting sorceresse, and execute it by thine owne hande, I promise my selfe thine euerlastingly, or what other reward so euer thou shalt require. Guahintie, which felt by her speeches, that greefe she endured, was onely a longing to reuenge her of her loues riuall, a torment which stungeth all women to the heart, hoping she would proue as firme as she proffered she would, and that in pleasing her fancie, and reuenging her on the Ladie, her should gaine her loue, for so much by her insinuating speech hee gathered, standing on no more poynts of hauing, but effecting her worde.

Hee was moued by that honour, which at her princely fathers hands he had receiued, neuer to take one quiet sleepe, untill hee was for her on the Ladie thoroughly reuenged, and that with such rygour, as shee her selfe could not deuise so ill a torment. And so taking his leaue, humbly kissing her handes, he left her to her accustomed thoughts, speeding to the Lantano of the citie, or as we say the Admirall, who had charge of all the kinges Gallies, Fopps, Brigandines, and Frigots, unto whom, feigning a matter of seruice, hee had for the employment of one chiefe Gallie, he compounded with him for her, and presently had her furnished, with vittails, and all other needfull things: which done, as one carefull of what he intended, he put to the Seas, and by his owne skill, knowing what course the Ladie kept for her port of Cenito Vecha, shaped the like to his master, rowing that night with all the force his power was able to make. In the morning the Sonne shewing his most glorious and splendent beames, and finding himselfe by his waiters reckoning to be well shotte from his sturt coast. After

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for some kinde theames offowe, and requitall to the matter
for his service and forwardesse in finishing his presence, omit-
ting the principall cause of following the shippe he sought, yet
by a Merchant offered him, by a Merchant
in that company of whom he so earnestly craved reuenge. The
Merchant which could well demean himselfe, knowing the
Knight to be of great account, and believing what he had sayd,
promised his best furtherance for the same. And thrusting his
course for their more speede, well waiting holwe for wind had
scanted upon them, vailed ouer for an Island, where common-
lie all men bound that way, accustomed to loade. In which
place by chance unhappily they met them. The Lady and her
women being on the shore recreating themselves, and the
men busied in getting water, wood, and such wants, aboord,
saue the Gentle which rowed mainly in for the place, who
spying their colours, by which they were knowne to bee of
Thrace, there was no further doubt, they having the Kinges
passe, and the league such betwene the nations.

But the Knight whose heart was bound to reuenge him
on a guiltlesse Ladie, no sooner came to anchor in the road, but
haling the ship, enquired for the Lady, who was then a shore,
which hearing, he speedeth vnto them, furnished with twentie
of his best men well appoynted, which he thought to bee suffi-
ent to suppress such naked people as he supposed they were.
No sooner was he on land, but with hollow heart, saluting the
Frenchmen he met, vnto whom he was well knowne, requi-
ring speeches with the Ladie, he was by those that honoured
her for her fathers loue, as also for her noble husband, sim-
ply conducted to the place, where the Priest, with all the Mar-
chants were devoutly on their knees at prayer, vnto whose O-
rison this bloudie minded knight, as had cleerke, said Amen,
long before it was time, without regard of honour or con-
science for defence of Ladys, rushing vpon them, layde vio-
lent handes vpon her, and others on the rest of the Gentle-
women, intending to haue carried her away perforce, which
the Frenchmen seeing, loth to lose the Ladies good company,
required

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required th: knight to acquaint them with his intent, in telling them that wrong, whose kindness refusing, without returning any answer, with his sworde slue him that first spoke, which caused the others, with such weapons as they had, to revenge their companions death, so that betwene them began a most cruell and grievous fight: the Frenchmen fighting in the right of our English Cavaliers Ladies, so valiantly behaved themselves, that they slue the most part of those which came a short from whom recovering their weapons, it is not to be thought what exploits was done betwene them. But in the ende all sorting out to the knights overthrow, who was in the fight slain, with all his companie that sided with him in the action. Such as fled was by those y were busily employed, taking their friends so ill entreated, slain, so that none recovered to carry tidings home they sped. The frier in this boile being a man of peace, taking care of the Ladie and her companie, withdrew the from their presence: & searching in there some place of safetie, from pursuit of the enemies, by chance lighted on the Cell of an Hermit, wherein they stopped themselves.

The maister in the Gallie, noting their ill successe a shore, layd the ship aboard, rifled her of what she had, and like a most cruell wretch, sunke her in the roade: which done, hoysing his sayles, having a winde faire for his port, hee made no longer stay, leaving the Ladie with her companie in a barrenne unfrequented yle, having no reliefe at all of any thing, but such roots and hearbes provided for them by the aged Hermit, whose guestes they were. Helpe against their willes, with this Hermit wee leave them a season, to attend their devotions, and a time of deliverance, the Maister with the Gallie bound for his home, to shewe you what other fortunes befall the knight of the Crosse.

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CAHP. III.

How the Knight of the holie Crosse, after some small stay in *Peloponnesus*, betooke him to his trauaile, with his fortunes.



Dward hauing reposed himselfe in this Citie, thinking the time long until hee sawe the ende of his desired iourney, taking leaue of the Viceroy, betooke himselfe to his good fortunes. Two dayes trauailed hee throughout those deserts of Greece, onely accompanied with his Page, and a Currier which was his guide. The thirde day hee had sight of a mightie conuoy of Cammels, being at least sixe thousand, with their Marchants, which came from India, bound into Egypt. To those gouernours and Marchants he sent, requiring them of vittales to relieue his store: his wine and oyle, by a casuall happe being lost, and no place of refuge nere to relieue it by a farre way: which the Marchants verie kindly graunted, furnishing his wants of what he required, and they could spare. With this companie he continued three daies, very pleasantly passing the time amongst them, of whose companie they were all right glad. The third day drawing towards the euening, as they began to unfurnish their Cammels, and to set vp their Tents, determining to lodge there all night, their espials deseried a companie of armed people, well mounted, which sped them towards their companie, so hardly pursuing the scouts, that they had much a doo to escape. Of these people the Marchants had great doubt, and seemed to be verie much troubled in minde at these tidings: which the knight perceiuing, cheered them with such comfortable speeches, as he could best utter, and they vnderstand: arming himselfe to withstand their forces, and placing his companies with such weapons as they had to receiue them,

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them, which was scarcely finished, before five gallant Cavaliers, with their staves charged come neere unto them, and required the marchants to deliuer those goods they had, for the vles of their king.

The Marchants, reposing themselves of this noble champion, were driuen to a non plus, what to answer, but as men amazed, stood gazing one the other in the face, whose timorousnesse the knight perceiuing, breathing no colours, mounting himselfe with his staffe charged in the rest, singled himselfe, and putting forward, required those gallants to say what their businesse was. The Tartares perceiuing him to bee a knight at Armes, and they souldiours, answered.

Sir, what thou art we know not, but by thy seeming, if wee be not deceiued, thou art a man of Armes, whom we come not in any sort to molest. But for these base fugitiues, which haue wronged our King of his customes, due to be payde of all men passing his Countrey, we come to be satisfied, which we will haue, or leese our dearest liues in gaining thereof: therefore gentle sir, as we haue declared the truth of our coming, take no part with them, if thou louest thine owne welfare. The knight which heard their reasonable answeres, could not take any thing spoken in ill part, untill he had examined the truth of the marchants, and whether there was any such custome due to their king as they required, which on there great oathes they denied, vowing vnto them by all solemn protestations they could vse, that there were none belonging to the King, but outlawes, and such as liued on the spoyle of traualers, neither was there euer any custome required of any prince in their time, some of them hauing vled that passage many yeares before.

The good knight which was loath to wrong either part, could not tell what to answer, considering the guile of men, which is to make the best of their owne matters, called the cheefest marchants, for in them he had most trust; and examining stricte each particular, of their abode, their cause of trauaile, and their place whither they were bounde, swore them to the truth of all

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what they had spoken, which done he returned againe unto the armed outlawes, which attended his answer, saying.

Falſe villaines, and deceitfull wretches, how dare you, being robbers and disturbers of peaceable travellers, ſo much to abuſe the reuerent name of your king, who is altogether vnacquainted with your trecheries, as to make his authoritie a ſhelter for your bloodie mindes, and ſpoiling the goodes of honeſt men, that you haue abuſed both him and vs, you ſhall all well know. Wherefore if your buſineſſe be no other then I haue notiſe it is, depart, or you ſhall know, to your great ſorrow, and hearts griefe, that you haue met with him which will not be daunted with your high looks.

The Tartares hearing him ſpeake ſo like himſelfe, and with ſuch reſolution, could well haue forborne to deale with him, or his companie, yet ſetting their reſt vpon the courage of their companie, which were all well appoynted, and better mounted deſied the knight, who taking all aduantages, ſeeing their reſolution ſuch, encouraging the Marchants, who were all fearefull of looſing what they had, began moſt honourably to aſſaile them whoſe power was as brauely reſiſted a long time: in this conflict was moſt honourable deedes of Armes by the noble knight done, who euer cheered his companies, which were all likely to runne away. So hot and fiercely continued this good knight this aſſault, that encountering hand to hand the principall leaders, he gaue them ſuch payment, as they could not with all their ſkill finde fault with their paymaſter: ſuch order hee tooke with them, dealing dole to all their coſts, that manie of them for feare fled the ſielde, betaking them to places where they might beholde the wonderfull deedes of honour done by this moſt renowned knight, which on all ſides they ſo aſſayled, as he had no way to get out, but ſuch paſſage as he made with his welltempered Curſelar, of whoſe mettall he made at that inſtant ſufficient prowe, which thoſe outlawes well felt. And perceyuing their power too weak, to conquer where ſuch a guider was, reſolved no longer to abide in hope, but euerie one to make ſuch meanes

as

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as he best could for his owne safetie, which the noble knight perceyuing, so hotlye pursued, that many Tartares soules hee sent to death: Others without armes, legges, and other limmes, lay weltering in theyr owne blood, that it was lamentable to see, such a Massacre amongst men, if they had bene such, as in men liuing in Princes obedience they should bee.

These Peasants thus flying, and the noble Edward wearied with pursute of them, night being at hande, so as it was not to bee discerned a friend from a foe, returning againe vnto his companies Tentes, in a Valley distant from them a good Myle, hee was there at vnawares set vppon by one of their leaders, which had escaped him in the battaile, who gathering together an hundred of his straggling Consoxts, knowing him to be gone that way, encountered him, who being wearie of the toyle taking so lately, had like to haue put him to the soyle, being so at the aduantage assayled. Yet hee whose heart neuer was scene to faynt, arming himselfe to defende, casting his Sheelde on his arme, putting himselfe amongst the robote of them, still crying Lancaster, God and Saint George for Englande, laying so about him, that some heades, some handes, and others in most pitifull wise crying out, hee made way thorow the thickest, so behauing himselfe, that euerie one that coulde make shift for one, was willing to giue him roome, and to bee gone. Of whome being cleared, bzeathing himselfe, and receyuing some ayre, hee might espie before him running by the Hill, a Gallant mounted on a Dilke white Courser, which the knight imagined shoulde bee the commander of those companies which last assayled him, with whom desirous to acquaint himselfe: hee gaue spurres to his horse, and so earnestly followed this Companion, who little thought of his comming, that ouer-taking him before hee was looked for, hee arrested him so soundlie with his blade of authoritie, as he made him forsake his Horse, to taste the sweetnesse of the

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earth, which done he dismounted himselfe, saying: Abide you gallant, and accept a straungers courtesie. I promise thee false fellow as thou art thou dishonourest thy Maister, which made thee a receiuer of custome, to run away when payment is tendered: wherefore seeing there is no more trust in thee, heere in your kings name, I discharge thee of this office. And so at one blow taking his head with his Curtelax from his bodie, left his soule to him that had most right.

This latter talke accomplished, breasting himselfe a while, hee mounted his Horse, and pacing easily towarde the Tents, which by the fires light hee had sight of, hee was mette with diuerse of his companie of the Marchants, who being men of more valour then manie of the rest, had put themselves in search of this worthy knight, passing all the way, thorow so manie heapes of deade men, and grievous wounded bodyes, that they admired his worthinesse, applauding his valour, and still praysing him, giving him the honour, above all men at Armes, whatsoever they had either heard of or seene.

Thus passing on in search of their honourable friend, whose companie they were not willing to forgo, sometimes carefull of his welfare, other while commending his halowde deeds of chivalrie, they espied passing downe the hill, a man armed, which they coulde not perfectly discerne, and therefore made a stande, intending to see if there came any more, before they put themselves into danger. But being perceived of the knight, who stood still on his garde, doubtfull of anie more such unexpected customers, making readie for the fight. And giving his Horse such way, as in his swiftest galloppe hee accustomed to make, he cried fiercelie out saint George. At which words the Marchants having knowledge of him, dismounted themselves, and kissing his handes, his knees and feet, honored him for more then a mortall man, which kindnesse, albeit he expected no such reuerent honour, hee tooke thankfully, requiting them with all courtesie, for the care they had of his well doing, so with pleasant discourses they

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they passe the way untill they came to three tents, where they alighting, tooke him carefully from his horse, and bringing him with all dutie to his lodging puruaide for him, they vnrmed him, washing his brused body, and such small scarres as hee reserued in fight, with most precious Balmes, which done, making him all the frolike cheare and honour they could, they commend him for that night to his rest, causing a sure guard, and heedfull watch to attend him in his tent, and placing faithfull sentinels, dreading the enemies, they tooke themselves to their quiet repose.

CHAP. III.

Howe the Knight of the Crosse, taking leaue of the Marchants and their companie, left them to their journey.



The day no sooner gaue light, but the Negroes and Slaves prouided to load their Camels, which done, the Tents taken downe, and all things ordered to depart, the way lying now for the Knight to leaue their companie, when they had well broken theyr fast, and carolued to their welfare, prouiding of al such prouision as they had, they presented him with a most curious casket of the rarest Jewels that euer his eyes beheld, beseeching him to accept them at their hands, as interest of their lones, becoming themselves euer his in all humble seruices. The Knight which was as courteous as valiant, seeing their thankfulnesse such, making choyle of some speciall Jewels, required them to haue those which hee did fancie, for without paying their prize, hee would accept none. The Marchants which had receiued the benefit of his valour, and freed from those men of mischief which had despoyled them of all if hee had bene absent, generally besought him to take in worth those they had presented, for that not onely their goods but their liues was his, al-

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leading that by him they enjoyed what they had, and therefore would not be intreated to receive any of them againe, but besought him with all humblenesse, if hee would not receive them, to bestow them on whom he would.

The knight when he saw their importunate sute, commended their thankfulness, willing them to attribute that good hee had done for the to God, by whose sufferance he had wrought their safetie, and in all places to speake of Englands honour, and their knight adventures: which done, taking those Jewels of most esteeme with him, hee commended them to their journey, who with many loath depart, bade him often times farewell with heauie hearts. This adue taken, we leaue the knight to his adventures, the Merchants to finish their journey, untill fit time serue to recount such other adventures as hee enterprised, to shew you further of the Lady Vallia, Alynde and their honest company, left in the vnfrequented Isle.

CHAP. V.

Of the great discomfort of the Lady Vallia, who of a conceited feare, fell sicke of a greuous malladie.



Du haue heard gentils, how the Ladie Vallia with those Merchants, was in the vnfrequented Island, left without any manner of sustenance or reliefe, other then such wilde rootes, hearbes, and frutes, as naturally had their being in that barraine soyle, through which vnusuall diet, and a conceited feare of more insuing dangers, the Lady fell sicke of an extreame malladie, for whose recouerie no helpe could auaille: yet did those religious Hermits and Fryers the best they could. The Merchants and others of the companie, to amende their diet, employed their labours to fish, and to making of ginnies, to take foule and such beasts as was there to be had, onely

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for her content, but in vaine do they seek to mitigate her sorowes, or recouer her health, such was her griefe for her Lords absence, and feare of more harsh pursuit of the enemies.

In this perplexed estate continued this good Lady, past all hope of reuerie, given quite ouer to death by all the company, who ceased not their prayers for her good health. But as in all extremes the fauour of our God is most shewne, so beholde in this, Vallia lying on her hard cabine, slumbring as in a dreame, there appeared vnto her thoughts a beautifull Personage, so glorious in his attyre, as she beholding thereof seemed to lacke her senses. This Angell as she supposing, after some pause and standing to behold her, thus said.

Vallia, surseace thy further dread: thy Lord cloyeth his life, whom once againe thou shalt meete, but haue no knowledge of him for a time: thine nearest allied death hath taken: yet dismay not, for in the seede of thy wombe shalt thou be made glorious. My message is done: thine intercessions are hard, and thy deliuey from this place as it hand.

This said, clapping his wings, as to her seemed, he left the caue, and departed, wherewith Vallia, as one awaked from a trance, seeming as one of her wits to be bereft, cried mainely out for helpe, whose sodaine motions caused them all to feare her death was at hand: yet comforted they her all they might with such speach & words of heauely pleasures as in such times is conuenient to be vsed, so long continuing their talke, that in the end grasping her had about the neck of her trusty Alinda: she raised her selfe in her bed, and fetching a deep sigh, said. Reuerent father Hermit, you patron of learning, and others my good friendes, this night haue I scene my sauiour face to face, who by his diuine prouidence hath vouchsafed to shew him, selfe vnto me his sinfull handmaide, by whom I am assured of my Lords prosperitie, and all our freedoms from this place.

The Hermit and the rest hearing these speeches proceed from her,

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her imagined the lightnesse of her head had moued these fantasies, and had the more doubt of her good health, and standing as men amazed, gazing one the other in the face, were as men senselesse, whose hard beleefe of her words uttered, caused her thus replie. Fathers and my good friends, let it not seeme incredible what I haue sayde, but attend the euent, which ensuing to our comforts as we expect, giue the honour to him, by whose prouidence we are comforted. This said, bidding them good night, shee fell into a most sweete sleepe, in which she continued till the morning was farre spent. Before which time the company which vsually went about their vndertaken labours for getting their victuals, from the tops of the mountains descried a small sayle at sea, which they viewed, earnestly waiting by a compasse they had, which way shee bare: but so long gazed they, that the gale blowing hie, and fitting their cause, which were bounde thither for water, hauing spent their store at sea, through such continuall foule weather which they endured, in such manner, that they durst cease no land for feare of daunger. They descried their hull, which scene, well was hee that might make most haste with the first tydings, thinking the time long vntill they came to the caue, where being nere speechlesse with the hast they made, a soaine feare possessed all the companie, specially Alinda, whose heart was at her heele vntill shee heard them deliuer the cause of their speedie coming, which knowne, God was glorified in generall. And Villia as one ouer ioyed at this sodaine newes, might not by any intreatie be held longer in her bed, but calling for her apparrell, attired her selfe with such courage, as if shee had felt no grieue, which done, resting her weake body on the arme of her Alinda, shee left the desolate caue, to take the comfort of the sweete ayre abroad, and to see the euent of those blessed tydings she hoped of.

By this time was the ship anchored, and the Mariners making haste for water, whereof they had great neede, hoysed their boate, and with their vessels came ashore, where they were heartily welcommed of those poore distressed people,
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John enquired diligently from whence they were, and what occasion brought them to that coast. For quoth the boatswaine, being a man of some good demeanour, we are of Sicilia, an Island belonging to the Spaniard king, bound by our charty partie, for the coast of Egypt, and meeting as poore sea men oft doe, with foule weather, the winds raiging in such maner, our store of wine being spent, & water scarce, our coming is hither for that releefe. Thus sir, quoth he, as I haue acquainted you with our fortunes, refuse not to let vs knowe what you are, which haue your abode in a place so vnfrequented as this, where I haue before this time bin oftē, but neuer saw or heard any y^e lived here.

Friend quoth the Marchant, wee are here a great many poore distressed soules, which by violence of an enemy that vnawares assailed vs on the shoare, were driven for safegard of this Lady to stand on our defence, where by fortune and the assistance of God, we vanquished the proude daring enemies, which were on land with vs : which when his companions perceiued that kept aboard his gally, they first rising our ship, taking what they best liked, and afterwards leaving vs without any releefe, sauing that apparrell on our backes, sunke our ship, and left vs to our fortunes, since which time we neuer had sight of any man or shippe, whereof we had any hope of comfort, before this time. Therefore if God haue ordained you for our good, and that as Christians you pittie our distresses, helpe this Lady with vs her friendes, to any place inhabited by Christians, your payment shall be large, and your charitable deede rewarded both of God and men.

The Boatswaine being a man as full of pitie as courage, hearing this lamentable discourse, and seeing the weake estate of the Lady, was moued with remorse of their good, promising his best furtherance for their comforts : so shipping one hogthead of water for the companie, hastneth aboard, taking with him the Fryer and two Marchants, whose words wrought such effect with the master and the rest, that a conclusion was passe for their passage, and the master comming a shoare, brought with him for the Ladies releefe, such

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bread, succor, and other provision as he had, which came in good time, and not before it was long looked for, which was as thankfully received. The master and his company having a care to bee at sea, applyed all their people to labour, so that within this dayes they were well provided with water, ready to set sayle.

CHAP. VI.

How Vallia and the rest taking leave of their good host the Hermit, was shipped from thence, with their fortunes.



Such was the industrie of the Master, that long time was not spent before all needful things were provided, when having a pleasing gale for their course, warning was given to the passengers to be readie, for whom they made no long stay, but their leave taken of the old Hermit, they commend him in their prayers to God, and themse'lves to such successe as they expected.

All things fitted and the passengers aboard, the anchors weyed, an nimble boy pare with his knife, gaue way to the sayles, which tryed to good passe, a maine they cutte the waues, and ioyful of this happines, as to be endowed with great treasure, two daies & more they enioyed of quiet and calm content, without any annoyance either of weather or enemies: the third morning beeing overcast and gloomie, a Boy looking out for dangers, espied vnder the edge of an Island, two stout Gallies, who having sight of the Shippe, made towarde them with all speede they could, of which being aduertised, a generall feare possessed all their hearts, especially the Ladie, who having so lately felt the force and extremitie of the merciless foe, was doubtfull of the like. But how timorous soeuer women in their kinde be, it resteth for men in extremities to shew themselves. The master being a man of courage, called

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all the companie, as well strangers as others, and bnto them he sayth. Friends all and companions, wee have noore small time to stande on discourses, seeing our enemies are at hand: if enemies they be, as it is most likely, be wif they gette the best, and wee by our cowardize subiect our selues vnto them, I doubt not but you all haue heard what miserie wee shall endure, for Turkes they are, that is without all doubt: therefore like men shewe your selues and arme you with courage and hope of victorie, for howsoeuer death cannot bee so bitter as the torments they will inflict on you, if they preuaile. Therefore as many as will take parte with mee, holde vp your heades, and provide for your safetie.

These wordes were no sooner deliuered from the Master, but you might see with what united hearts euerie man gaue his consent to fight it out, and standing on no fearres, euery man prouided him such weapons as hee coulde best vse, lacing close theyr mettinges, and making ready theyr fire woorkes to annoy them: whilst euerie man was thus busied, Vallia whome feare hadde nere overwhelmed, was comforted by her friendly frist Alinda, who chearing her weake spirits, said. Quant your feare Hadam, cast heauinesse aside, and let not these sullen thoughts cumber you, wee know the worst; death is to be preferred before a miserable life. Therefore take courage, shewe your selfe to be your selfe, and reuember your noble Lorde, who were hee present, would dare all those curs to behold his face. Though we be women lets do our best, or at least, if your heart quaille, giue me leaue, for before you die some of them shall abate your life, or both my heart, power, and weapon shall faile me.

Vallia, which saue her booman in this humour, could not forbear to smile, howe heaue soeuer her heart was, yet setting a good face on the matter, sayde, well Alinda well, your great shewes will proue I feare but a bolde cowards bragge, as much may they do that say little, as they that fill the ayre with threathing clamours, whatsoeuer thy thoughts are of my

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fearre, if my helpe nede, wherunto I trust it will neuer come, Alinda shall see Vallia hath Raynolds heart, though not his apparrell.

Whilst they were thus pleasantly iesting, to the good encouraging of all the companie, whose care was most for them, the Gallies coming up, hailed them, commanding them to strike, and the maister with the Marchants to come aboard, or without resistance to suffer them enter. The Marchants of France, passengers hearing theyr peremptory speeches, answered Bloudie and unhallowed curs, what think ye of vs, to be men or babes, that you dare vs so with these speeches, knowe that befoze thou haue in possession the least haire of any of our heades, thou shalt deereley abyee them, therefore amaine, amaine, and therewithall hauing his peece reade, fired the same, aiming at the poope, wherewith shooting at randen, by great fortune killed the Admirall of the Gallies, wrich done, a most sharp & bloudy fight began, and with great courage on the Christians parte maintayned, who with their ordinarie slew their slaves and companies like Bees: which disadvantage the Turkes seeing and feeling, fighting so farre off, bodded them one on the one side, the other on the other: at this onset beganne the Spaniards to quaille, which were cheered to the fight by their passengers, who seeing theyr valour, was encouraged to sticke to that which else they had given ouer, especially seeing and noting how manly and without feare, the Lady Vallia and her Alinda denoured themselves, who spying their times to worke on the advantage, seeing their chaines full with Turkes, ready to enter theyr ship, from a port with their shorke pikes, spoyled many, thrusting them ouer board, and killing diuers, and speeding them from that labour, two naked Turkes hauing fastned an anchor at their Shippes rother, thinking to enter in theyr hearme partes, by Vallia and Alinda were so plyed with Pottes of Powder fired, Pikes of wilde fire, and such other, as theyr whole companie giuing ouer the fight, there was very fewe or none, eyther Turkes or Christian slaves which

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which could stand so pitifully were they spoiled, burned, and massacred, whereby they enforced them to yield themselves into the Christians mercies, of whom they took small pittie: but breaching them all in the sea they founde alone, sunk one of the Gallies, and taking all the Christians into the other that were able to serue, freed them from their chaines, and caused the wounded to be drest, left the Gally in possession that night of a Marchant of Marceclan which done, and all things quietly ended, the srier which sawe how valiantly the Ladie and Alinda employed their forces, highly commended them for their forwardnesse in this action, which made Alinda in teasting manner thus to say. What your Ladship is become so valiant on the sudden, I do not greatly marvell, considering the fellowship you have so lately with so honourable a knight, whose courage hath animated you to this hardnesse: if the husband bee famous for his worth and honour gained in all places, no doubt but France and Spaine, and Italy, shall sound the Ladie Vallia her high deserved commendations, whom, if God bless with increase of children, are likelie to proue men of high account in the worlde, if they haue the fathers courages, or the mothers stomacks which is paired by with an English heart. Vallia hearing her spalden to it all thus broad, cut off her speech thus.

Alinda, what motions are these, that on such sudden causeth your strings to iarre so farre beyond your custome, such manner of iearns I knowe not, though louing thee, I straine my selfe at this tittle to digest them. In delivering of which speech, Alinda perceiuing by her vntroued scowling of her browes, that she was somewhat discontent at her speech, forbore her further answers for that time. To put her from her melancholie, the master of the ship told her such vnties as they had was ready, if she pleased to sup: to hereunto she was easily entreated, having gotten her a stomacke with her long fasting, and hard toyle in the fight. Their discourses at table of each seuerall accident happening, I omit, to let you knowe their ensuing actions with their successe.

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CHAP. VII.

How the Spaniards deliuered the Gally vnto the French Marchants, and Mariners, with such vittalles as they needed, who taking with them the Lady Vallia, left them.



The Lady with her friends discoursed at supper of the dangers past, leauing nothing of worth by any one particular beneuolent, done in that action, a motion was made, that the Gally with the flanes able to labor, and vittalls necessary should be given vnto her to bring her to her desired port, vnto which the Spaniards to requite the good done them by her whole companie, granted very willingly, for performance of which, order was presently take, and each thing usefully puruaide to the ladies good content. In the morning early by break of the day, the master hauing the wind faire, was loath to make longer stay then need, haled the gally, willing them to come nere the ship, and vnto the marchant revealed their intent, and what the whole companie had agreed vpon, which was verie well accepted of the French men, who rendered him many thanks for his fauour, for dispatch of them both: such hast was made as possible they might, which was suddenly done to the general reioicing of these poore captiues who by this overthrow of the Turkes, were made free. The ladie aboard, taking their solempne farewell each of other, they shaped each one there seuerall course best fitting their turne. Vallia frolike with her companie, & holy father, vnto whom with a verie thankfull mind vnto her maker for all the successe she had received from him, and accomplishing her hearts desire, omitted nothing worthy the recounting, to the great admiration of all the hearers, especially the frier, whose charge she was, who calling to mind the fauor of God, in revealing to her by vision their time of sudden departure, thought her some holy & chosen woman, & euer after in all his Masses & other ceremoniall rites according

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according to the order of their church and blind deuotion, extol-
led the ladie farre beyond her expectation. Thus falling frō one
discourse to another, to driue the time away: after they had spent
one whole weeke at sea, they might discover þ mountain neer
the old city Ceueta uecha, or old Rome, so called, & had al things
so fauourable to their desire, that long before night they reco-
uered the road, where comming to anchor, was presently boy-
ned by the officers of the citie, who had great feare they had bin
Turks at their first comming in: but hauing some conference
with the frier, was certified of all their proceedings, leauing
nothing unspoken which might gaine them fame, and the ladie
honour, wherfore the officers hauing knowledge, holding that
truth which the frier had spoken, whilst they frolicke with the
ladie & her compaigny, sent his gruelow a shote with one of his
confederates, charging him to deliuer to the abbot & his friers
what he heard, taking like order for pursuuing her of lodging
in the old palace of the Emperour, which he caused to be furni-
shed with all needfull furniture, as the shortnesse of time would
permit them, with all promise that was there to be had.

The officer who was a topfall man of these things to be the
messenger, hasteneth all he might, being with child with those
netoes, & longing to be deliuered, wherfore as soon as he reco-
uered the shote, staithe not untill he came vnto the lord abbot,
vnto whom he forgot nothing of his charge, which the old man
hearing, blessing & crossing himself, wōderously perplexed with
the strangenes of þ tale deliuered, he first called his couent togi-
ther in their church, wher they praised God for them, and their
safetie, and so putting on all their best masking attire, went in
procession to the sea side, to receiue her a shote, where they car-
ried with them the speciallest reliques they had.

The captaine of the towne with his band, in solenne order
marching in like manner, and all the bells ringing for ioy, to wel-
come the holy Ladie. After all these the gouernors and counsell
of the towne in their order, making such a beautifull shewe as
had not bene on such a sudden euer scene before.

All things ordered at point deuice, boats were sent out so richly
furnished

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furnished with Tapistrie, Carpets, and curious Cushions, as was a wonder to see, the shore standing full with all the people in the towne.

The men appointed to bring her a shore, being noble men, the one a gouernour in the towne, the other a Cardinall, who boarding the Gally, on their knees solemnly kissed her hands and feet, doing her as much honour as if our Ladie had bin present, which she tooke small pleasure to haue, which done, and a generall welcome to the whole companie, the gouernour entreated her to take the comfort of the shore, to which small pertentions serued, at her going to the boat, well was hee that might set hand to helpe, he thought himselfe most happiest, & could come nearest her, such fopperte was not vsed aboard, but much more on the shore, where was ducking on all sides, crouching and kneeling, with such singing, drumming & gunning, that y^e Echo thereof was enough to make a man sicke: The welcome giuen, this noble Ladie might not be suffered to touch the earth with her feet. But at her landing place, was spred a most sumptuous cloath of estate, and a Chaire thereon to rest her, where when she had a while reposed her selfe, and euery one of account kissed her feet and hands, foure commanders, two Priests, and two Captains, carried her in the chaire, ouer whom was borne by the Abbot, the Cardinall, and two noble men, amost rich Canapie. So marched shee vntill they came vnto the Abbey, where preparation was made for her lodging, where the Procession ending, the Cardinall and Abbot took leaue of the gouernours of the towne, bidding them good night.

But they which had provided the Emperours pallace, and bene at great charge for her viands, tooke in ill part, that any such unkindnesse should be offered them, and in quiet maner besought them to grant them leaue to haue the guard of her, which they so scornefully answered, that the Cardinall in speaking as his cholericke nature accustomed, with his hande had like to haue giuen the Gouernour a blowe on the face, which unkindnesse the souldiours disdaining, by violence sought to carrie

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carrie the Ladie, in such manner, and with such harsh behauiour on both sides, that the Cardinall, Abbot, the Crosse, Banners, and all were layd lowe on the earth, and such a hurley burley begonne, as was neuer seene the like, strutting for the Ladies entertainment, which grieved the good Ladie, which was then to be ruled by those of greatest power, the souldiers and commanders of the Towne, with whom she was best pleased, so that her lone and honourable Lord, was a man of Armes and honour.

This discourtesie the Cardinall and his company tooke in such ill part, that they cursed all the Towne, and Towne inhabitants, suspending them from the holy Church for ever. But they whose care was small at that time, for any their doings cared but little. The Lady they cheared, who wanted nothing that was fit for her honour and welfare, where let her repose her selfe a time with iollitie, the Fryers sweating in their own grease, and the Cardinall and Abbot chafing like men frantike, to shewe you what after happened.

CHAP. VIII.

How the Gouvernour aduertised the Emperour, of the arrival of the Ladie *Vallia*, and what after chaunced her.



The broyle ended, a great sturre was in all the Religious houses, amongst themselves, debating of the wrong offered by the people of the Towne, the Church doores were all sealed up, and no man upon paine of their curse to enter them.

This was considered of the Gouvernours, who tooke aduise in the matter, knowing the authoritie they haue in all places where their religion taketh place. Besought the Ladie for her Letters of fauour to the Emperour, to the end this begun enmitie, might be appeased, vnto which she was easily perswaded, though far against the minde of her Protectors the Fryer.

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The Ladies Letters signed, which imposed her message from the knight of the holy Crosse, and the messenger appointed, there was no detracting of time, but with all speed that he could make, he applied his businesse, untill he came unto Rome, where coming before the Emperour, he delivered his Letters, which were very welcome, taking great pleasure in the coming of the Lady into those confines, being Lady and wife unto the knight which of all men living he helde in most regard.

Whillett the Emperour was discourting with the Messenger, a Cardinall came to summon him before the presence of the Pope, presently to appeare, to answer those wronges done by his Governours to the Church and Patrons thereof, of all which, the Cardinall had signified his holinesse, which was held a matter most hainous.

The Cardinall gone, the Emperour called againe for the Messenger, and with him questioned of all those troubles begonne, whereof he did aduertise him in each particular, and withall, delivered the Governours Letters, which he had written to that ende, doubting such a chaunce would happen, and that the Cardinall would seeke reuenge, with all extremite he could. When the Emperour was aduertised hercof, making no stay, he came before the Pope, unto whom as the maner was, doing reuerence, he requireth the cause of his speedie sending for him.

The Pope whose fury was not yet ouerpast, incensed to more choler by perswasions of the rest, who hung al in a string, doubting least giving heed to these, it might incurre a farther damage unto them all, in their severall government, began in loude and most harsh termes to reuile the Emperour, calling him hereticke, and subbozner of heretickes, uttering against him speech of most dishonour and disgrace. All which the Emperour like himselfe, as he was a most graue and well gouerned Magistrate, knowing by his owne perfections, other mens humors, forbore to answer what he in choller offered, but miloly leauing his presence returned to his Pallace, very high-

In discontent, yet governing his passions, betaking himselfe to his studie, he gan with great sollemne to consider of each accident, and finding his Governours offence to touch his reputation, albeit he had done all for his honour and credit, yet the Church carrying a hand over all of what estate so ever, knowing by experience their insolencie, thought it best to reconcile himselfe without farther moving of trouble, and thereon resolving sent presently for the Cardinall his Confessor, unto whom he saith, what heavinesse and grieve he conceiveth at those unkinde dealings of his Governours against his holinesse, the Church, and state thereof, beseeching him, of those loves he alwayes proffered unto him, to finde some meane to accord his holinesse and him, so that a league and peace being obtained, all wrongs might be forgotten, and his Tolmes men restored to the Church againe. All which his Confessor promised most faithfully to follow. And so taking leave of the Emperour, speedeth him to his holinesse presence, where forgetting nothing that he had promised, omitting nothing for his better successe, declareth at large the heavinesse of the Emperour, for his abuse offered against his will and knowledge, so earnestly applyeth his sute unto the Pope and his honorable friends, that though with much ado, yet at last an attonement was granted, but the Emperour and the Tolme fined at ten thousand florence for the offence: wheron concluded, a peace was made, and unitie betwene them, and they all restored to the Church.

This brabyle ended, the Emperour not forgetting his friends Lady, bent his studies for her royall entertainment, for which taking order with all his Officers, he appointed a day to set forward to her place of abode. Till which time, we leave them to recount unto you the knightes troubles, and what chaunceth him in his travailer.

CHAP. IX.

How the Knight of the holy Crosse, by the trechery of his guide, was robbed of his Horse and Armour, and what happened.



After the departure of the Knight with the Marchants, on the Mountaines of Tartars, coming to a place called Sylo, where he was to imbarque himselfe, he discharged his guide, and sayled with other company to Misath, where being landed, presented himselfe with the rest of the passengers to the Bashaw, who came in person to see the passengers bounde for Jerusalem. This Bashaw being of a proud and insolent condition, expected great reverence, which of the common company was given him. But our Cuyllier scorning such base fashions, could not stoupe in such manner, wherefore the Bashaw began in vile speech to taunt him, which he better understanding then the rest, though he had not his language to perfit, in Italian answered his speeche, whereat great exceptions were taken, yet by reason of his safeconduit, he durst no quarrell or make stay of him, but amongst the rest, without fauour, had vittalles and a guide: and so mounting his horse departed, leaving the company to the common guard of the souldiers, as is the custome.

The Bashaw whom spite had moued to choller against the Knight, understanding he left the ordinary passage, intended to crye quittance with him, by trechery, or as he best might, to fulfill his diuellish minde: And that night armed a hundred of his best Yannisaries, whom he hyed to slay him, appoynting them the way to follow the Knight, whom they very hardly pursued, in such manner hastning, that they had sight of him, following by easie pace a long time, till night growing vppon them, they caused a naked Horse to overtake him, and to keepe him company, appoynting him to take such order with his guide,

guide, that where he should rest, to robbe him both of horse and armour: And that done, to give them notice, whome he should be sure to finde by their severall flyers, which they would of purpose make. With this lesson the naked rogue left them. And overtaking the Knight, fell in jesting with his guide, with whom he used such pleasaunt behaviour, that it greatly delighted the Knight, who made much of him, and willed him to stay by the fountaine where he pitched his Tent, imparting with him such vittails as he had: when the Knight had well refreshed himselfe, and had seene his Horse well meated with barley which he brought for him, giving straight charge to the Horse his guide, to maintaine the flyer which usually they kept, for defence of the Lyons and wilde beasts keeping the beasts, he took him to rest.

The Horse having now opportunitie to worke his companion, taking him from the Tent, beganne so to worke with him, that with shewes of kindnesse being his countrey man, love of the souldiers where he lived, and hope of great reward, he willed him to effect whatsoever he desired: which done, taking the opportunitie offered, he adventured first to enter the Tent, and by severall peeces take the Armour, his shield being under his head he durst not touch, and his sword with an arming lace fastened to his arme, being well as he thought with this, they took each of them a Horse, and leaving both the Knight and his Page to walke on foote, left them thus in their sound sleep.

The trayterous villaines having sped of their businesse, ceaseth not passing from flyer to flyer, until they had given notice to all the souldiers what they had done, who gathering themselves together, set on to find the Tent whither they were conducted by the guide and the other slave, his companion in this practise. But he that in many perilles had delivered our brave and endaunted Knight, persecuted him still for his Countreys honour, as you shall note.

For the villaines gone, and heavy slumber oppressing him, he fell into a sound sleep, in which he dreamed, and in his dream

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Went perfectly to see an host of men, environ a selve peaceable
travellers, which he of mere devotion sought to rescue: in which
dreaunte awaking, and bustling himselfe, as to helpe those di-
stressed, sought for his armour, being neither fast a sleepe nor
thoroughly awaked: which ensuing, he calleth his Page, and
both went to seeke their horses which were likewise gone, lea-
ving them none but the Asse and Mule which carrieth theyr
vittayles.

This chaunce happening, he could not imagine what to
do, nor where to seeke those miscreants which so had robbed
him, yet searcheth he here and there, crying and calling for
them, which were too farre off to heare him: So long they
followed seeking those villaines, that they might hear the noyse
of many horses, which trouping made great speede towards
the place where they kept.

Attentively listned the Knight, to note if he could here any
voyce, and busily bethought him what was best to do in this
extreme, beleewing verily that he was betrayed yet making no
semblant thereof, caused the Page to bring from out his tent
a case of Pistolles with his powder and shotte, which com-
monly the Page carryed, with those he charged the boye, if
occasion served, to do his best service, and to giue him that
helpe he could, which faithfully he promised to accomplish.

Scarcely had they determined what to do, but they might
discry the two Moores gallopping on their horses, which by
their white Algosines they perfectly did knowe, leading the o-
thers which closely followed them, making all the haste they
could.

This sight made him verily beleue that those villaines had
betrayed him, and that those Horsemen were they which en-
tended to worke him mischief, for whome hee purposeth to
prouide, seeking his best aduantage to continue the fighte,
sheltering himselfe close to a shrubbed Olive Tree, which
grewe thereby, distant from his Tent a furlong or there-
about, by which they must needs passe that came to seeke
him.

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The Horses approaching, making readie to take them first, which were the Authours of this stratageme, the Page with a Pistolle killed the one, and the other whiche was his guide, with his Curtilex hee unhorsed, doing him no other harme. But perceiuing who hee was, thought to saue him aloue, to bee a guide for him, if hee escaped out of those Mountaines, so binding him hande and foote, hee put a gagge in his mouth, and cast him from him: which done, making readie to entertaine the rest, hee speeded to his chosen Tree: where long hee had not stayed, but the others gallopping came as swiftly as they could, where finding the two Horses without men, made them stande, but to their cost, for his Pistolles being provided, by them the foremost two lost their lines. Which done, hee armed himselfe to defence, euer annoying them as hee sawe his most aduantage, whilst the Page with his Pistolles did his part, paying surely all those that hee made offer to hitte. A hardie boyle and dangerous fight endured this Noble English Knight, which for all their great multitudes was not dismayed at all, but in the midst of his distresse, to the encouragement of his poore Page, cryed still Lancaster, Saint George for England, neuer making any shewe of discouragement, albeit his woundes were many, which bled moste greuously, yet stood hee, to the great overthrow of them all, brauely and ioyfully encouraging himselfe with hope of theyr shamefull downe-falles. In which ayded by him whome hee zealously serued, hee brought to confusion, sometimes assailing, sometimes defending, as hee best could finde opportunitie, and greatest aduantage, euer speeding one or other, so that hee neuer strooke in vaine.

Continuing his dole with such a kinde of deuotion, that the better part of their Army being slaine, and the moste of the rest lying grouelling for life, amongst them, he espied one of the verie principallest hauing on his Armour, who

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who being none of the best men, seeing the others haue such ill successe, was flying as fast as he could, but the knight perceiving him, got him to horse, and so earnestly followed him, that to his great cost he overtook him, in ill time, as he might well witnesse: so with such authoritie he arrested this run-away, that he had no leisure to aske at whose suite, but being an execution, patroned his life for satisfaction.

This companion hauing his passport to the great duell, signed and sealed by the hand of a noble English knight, he armed him, and passing backe amongst the rest, payde throu more then he owed, by many a Turkes life.

By this time the day gaue him faire light, so that he might well see his squire, wherfore such as could make shift for themselves, seeing the ill successe their fellows had, stood not on any more points of manhood then was fit they should, but without taking leaue made what haste they could for their safetie.

The noble Edward seeing his companions gone, and none left able to make any resistance, went to suruay them, which were all goodly fellows, and well appointed after their fashion, amongst which, he found one Spanyard, who was newly taken in Turkey, and turne Turke: this fellowe had some knowledge of the knight, and was abiding in Gebraltare, when by the Turkes he was betrayed to the Gouernour. And in his company two Easterlings which had bene men of value and good worth, who hearing the Spanyard craue for pittie at his handes, hauing some hope to escape with life, cryed out vnto him, beseeching him to heare them speake, who being of kinde and noble condition, commanded them to say what they would he would heare them.

This comfort obtained, the Easterling bewayling their ill fortunes, which through the crueltie of the Turkes, were compelled to forsake their Saviour, allured therunto oft by threatening, and menaced with grievous torments, and oft with promise of large possessions, so that in the ende to their great sorrow and more shame of themselves, they repented their folly and great sinne committed against God, beseeching the knight to

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to haue mercie vpon them, who being now in his hand, might
either deliuer them by death from that thing of conscience,
which continually tormented as the hungry Wyger on his prey,
or graunting them life, accept them as his slaves, so that they
might thorow a repentant minde, obtaine the fauour of God,
whome so highly they had offended.

With this pitifull sent, the knight whose heart was alwaies
inclined to mercie (moued with remorse of saving their soules,
whome it was but he that gaue them life could pardon) forgave
them th^{er} death, and the Spaniards also, and with the helpe of
the page, carried them vnto his lodging, where he playd the
surgeon, binding and dressing they wounds: which done,
with such Balmes and ointments of rare worth, he traunshed
his owne grieues, giuing God thanks for his safetie in those
extremes, and freeing him from those dangers, for the ease
and recure of al which, hee made his stay there, some three or
foure dayes, releasing the Horse which lay bound, who serued
to dresse they horses, on whose examination, and the Casti-
llings, he had knowledge, that his intended euill proceeded from
the Bathan, who hyed the Jencsaries of purpose to slay him
for whom God continually fought.

CHAP. X.

How the Knight of the Crosse arriving at Ioppa, through
the treason of those that fled, was there imprisoned.



Yet this most famous knight, and my-
tour of honour, had reposed himselfe with
those wounded people, some foure dayes,
and had gotten strength to traualle, he
puruiaged him for his iourney, and set for-
ward as his way lay to Ioppa. At this
place, some of the Jencsaries which esca-
ped from the fight, was come before, lay-
ing watch there, as also at Rama, and other places, for stay of
the

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the knight in his passage. At this towne, the General no sooner arrived, but by those tokens was giuen, he was well knowne, and had entertainment by the Bashaw, which sat in the gate bayle, of purpose to entertaine such traualers as came.

When the knight had declared what he was, and his occasion of trauaile, doing all customes that to the place appertained, deliuering his weapons, with which, no man being a stranger, is suffered to enter, hauing him naked, and at aduantage with nothing to defend himselfe, or offend them, the Bashaw suffered him to enter the towne, appointing his lodging as the custome is to doe. But before he recovered the place, an ugly monster of men, with a face as grieuie as a Beare, came vnto him, accompanied with a traine of rakeshames, which attended him, all weaponed: and laying violent hands vpon him, calling and reuiling him at his pleasure, commanding him to go with him.

The knight and his companie that saw this extremitie and wrong offered him, being now in such a place, where it was hopelesse to resist them, hoping the best, yelded himselfe vnto their mercies, who caried him to a most wilde and stinking place, where the roome was scarcely able to lodge two dogs, hauing nothing but the bare earth to lodge on, neither could he be suffered to haue any, his trunckes, bedding, and such money and goods as he had, they confiscated to the Bashawes vles, who would not depart with one opeere of his Dutie.

The knight in safetie, they laide hands on the page, who being a proper yong man, they sought to haue him a Turke: But he who scorned his life, in regard of Gods fauour and loue, on which he builded, resisted all their deuises, sometimes speaking sayde, and other times, daring them to doe what they durst, respecting nothing what they could deuise to doe him harme, such was his constancie and firme hope in God.

The Spaniards and the two Castrellings, were fayne to sticke still to their olde consoytes for fauour, whome they won with such gentle speeches, to fauour the knight, that they obtained leave to bring him his vyands, which was so good as any

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any they could get for their monies, ever cherishing him in his necessities, bowing themselves his, so assured, that their lives should be offered for their safetie, which comfort her took so kindly, as if they had done him all the good her could himselfe desire, promising a good requitall, if God ever released him of those troubles.

Thus leane was the noble Edward in his imprisonment, for a time: the Page to the favour of the Bishops, and the Castellan employing all their best power for his deliverance, to let you heare of the lady Vallia, & her companie, what hapned then.

CHAP. XI.

Howe the Emperour with all his traine, set forwardes from Rome, to conduct the Ladie Vallia vnto Rome.



The Emperour, having made the atonement with the Pope for his people, omitted no time for purueying all thinges, which might any wayes tend to his honour, or please his most noble friends ladie, whom in his absence he took a princely care of, which ordained as he could best devise, he dispatched two noble men of his Court, with great presents vnto her, to signify his coming, which took the easier iourney, his age requiring it, commanding those nobles to see each thing with such honour to be furnished, as if himselfe were present. With this charge the nobles departed, desirous to see the Ladie, of whose rare vertues, and most excellent graces was so much spoken of, as also for her Lordes sake, whose followers in the Emperours wars they sometimes were, delayeth no time for performance of what they intended: so as in very short time they arrived at Cenita Vecha, & were suddenly brought to the ladies presence, vnto who doing all the reuerence they could, or as their countries vse is, they declared the great care of the Emperour for her, the ioy he contained of

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her safetie and good arrivall in his confines, and how much he desired the presence of her Lord and husband, whose welfare he wished as his own, and whose companie he more desired, then all the Riches of the world. This said, and the Lady returning heartie thanks for those princely favours, as also for her honorable presence, the nobles desirous to be certified of y^e knights safetie, beganne to question with her of many sundry matters, who were with such busidoutie and honourable courtesie answered, that they admired her, giving her the prayse of all the Ladies that ever they had seen.

The nobles delighting in her companie, never were satisfied with her speech, but as times convenient served, with much pleasant parley and speech of importance, as occasiō was ministered, they passed the time thus by three daies. After which time the Lady, who had often felt such fits as to young women are incident, though unaccustomed with those passions, and being acquainted with none but her Alinda, which had as small skill in such causes as her selfe, she put that off often with good countenance, which beganne now to increase so on her, that she could no longer hide: all which she attributed to her trouble, and such other cares as she endured, that to be assured of her disease, and to seek release for her, being in verie weakie case, they acquainted the Physician of the cardinall with her toaier, who by all his skill, found the cause no other, but breeding childe, for which having a careful regard (commanded stricktly unto it by his Lord) he prescribed order of diet and government for her, which he gave with great charge unto Alinda, to execute. In this carefulle attendance of the Ladies sickness, a messenger arrived at the pallace, which brought tidings of the Emperors coming, who was within halfe a dayes iourney, and meant God willing to tarry with them that night. At hearing of which, a great stir began in the citie, making all the preparation for his most honorable entertainment. The Cardinal with al his crew mounting themselves, with all the nobles and burgeses of the Citie, in good and most commendable order, issued the Citie to meete him, at whose coming, such a general ioy was seen in

euerie

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cuerie place, as of long time had not bene the like.

What kind and louing embracing was betwene the Cardinall & him, the Bishops, Abbes, and all the rest, with shewes of loue and dutie, and how honourably the same was requited, I omit, bringing him to the pallace gate; his long desired place to be: where the Lady Valiant with her Aynne, and all the Ladies of the nobilitie and honour met him, vnto whome Vallia prostrating her selfe on her knees, besought his excellent highnesse, to accept the humble service of her lord and husband, who rested him in all dutie, beseeching his imperiall maiestie to pardon his negligence, and bestow that Ladies letters by which she was recommended vnto his favourable cōsideration, not omitting each particular action, which chanced her and her companie, with the cause of the same, of all which she intreated his maiestie to enquire of those merchants, and that excellent father the Prior, to whose charge she was committed by her lord.

The Emperours full of maiestie and honour, making great shewes of heartie welcome to her and her people, most honourably entertained them, giving those Ladies and nobles of his countrey gracious thanks, for honouring him so much as they had done, in entertaining this welcome Lady to his countrey. These welcomes of each first given, the time being supper was ready, they pleasantly spent in discourse of severall matters, the most part tending to the honour and high commendations of the knight of the Holy Crosse, of whose vallox, courtesie, and resolution, they all affirmed none could sufficiently speake. At hearing of which, suppose your Ladies and women of what estate soever, that have men of person, valour, and honour, endowed with many good parts, as this noble Edward, if Valia were proud yet or no, you are made iudges of her thoughts, which by your owne thoughts can best censure of hers, if she be proud, it is not her fault, for by him his countreys honour should the world be increased.

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CHAP. XII.

How the Emperour taking care for the Ladie his charge, after great honour done vnto her, set forwards to Rome.



His Emperour whose honourable thoughts was most in giving due honour vnto the Ladie, was ioyfull in her presence, but more ioyfull in that she was with child, which he hoped should haue his beginning in the world in his dominions, so; whom as so; the Ladie he was not a little carefull, taking an especiall charge on himself, so; her safe conuay to Rome, whether after some stay made, as well so; the ease of his aged body, as so; dispatch of such business the lady had then in hand, when by his excellent bounty at her entercellion, the Marchants so; their goods lost, were satisfied, and those Chyistian prisoners with good rewards set free, and all things sorted to such happie event as she desired, euerie one content, and the Emperour best pleased in his charge, hearing by generall report, her most godly behaviour, and her resolute courage, in their and her owne defence, louingly embracing her, he sayth: welcome the flower of womanhood, to thine owne Empire, where thou shalt not liue to be commaunded, but to command: whatloeuere I possesse, in all places where I haue any command: therfore honourable Ladie, set feare and care apart, and frolicke it with those whose care is now so; you and your welfare.

For whose gracious offers, Vallia rendered her most hearty thanks, beseeching God to endue her Lord with life, and safe returne to Rome, that hee might acknowledge the like.

This finished, the Emperour commaunded to prepare so; their iourney, which was in all readinesse against the next morning, when with all the honour might be shewen, shee was

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was accompanied, with all the estates of the countrey, both Ladies and others: at whose departing the citie, great gifts were presented unto her, which she most thankfully accepted, and the Emperour for her sake most honourably and bountifully requited.

Thus leaving the citie of old Rome, by verie easie journeyes they proceeded, passing the way with all deuises might be procured, to beguile the weariness of the journey, as hauking, hunting, and other pastimes and pleasing discourses, in which, the Emperour desirous to knowe of what countrey she was, for that she spake his owne language so perfectly, required it at her hande as an especiall fauour, which Valla with great reuerence and comfesse answered, discoursing briefly vnto him the long and heartie affection she bore him, being but a stranger, and how she left her fathers court, with her woman then attending on her, disguised both in mans attyre, not omitting his deliuerance from the Spanish imprisonment, with all their proceedings, vntill their marriage. Which wonderfull discourse the Emperour was neuer wearied to heare: when she had all finished, with such heartie leue and more zealous affection, if more might be, kissing her tender cheekes, which he bedewed with his teares, proceeding from the entire ioy of his most honorable hart, he saith, Thou lamp of honour, wonder of y^e earth, how may thy most deserved praises be eternized as thy merit my noble friend in so honourable a child, and thy countrey thirise happye is renoumed wherein thou hadst thy being: blessed be y^e loynes from whence thou proceededst, & a world of happinesse betide those, whose tender paps gaue thee nourishment. Honorable friend Duke Philip, happy father, eternally shal thy name liue, in this gracious and noble child: oh Philip, joy of thy loving friends and kin, bidst thou know thy daughter, whom long absence it may be, thou reckonest among the dead, where lunning and so neare thee, what ioy would it bring thy drooping aged heart: He thinks I see thy sprites how they would ship, to heare thy Valla liueth, which thou shalt know, with such speede as I best may, or can giue thee notice thereof.

if

if you gracious ladies say a Church, to what intention? Valla
 being the joy of the Emperor, for her fathers good, could not
 forbear shedding tears at his kind offers: which passing o-
 ver as she best could, prostrating her selfe, she in all humilitie,
 besought his Maiestie, to thinke he lve much she had incurred
 her fathers high displeasure, so to leave her: without giving
 any notice of her departure to any one: which she doubted
 would never be recovered without his speciall suit, which it by
 his most honourable meanes she did obtaine, how she shee
 hold her selfe blessed of God, and honoured of his highnesse,
 modestie caused her conceale: believing with the honour of her
 husbands name, that all the favour he could do her, was not,
 neither could it be so acceptable unto her as this.

The Emperor noting her bravadoe for her fathers
 displeasure, comforted her all he might, assuring her on his ho-
 nour, to recover what she required: And calling for pen, ynk,
 and paper, wrote as followeth.

To the most gracious and noble Prince Philip, Duke of
 Genoway, and Naples, heath, and in the

THese honoured Duke, a longing desire hath moved
 vs oftentimes, since our last being together, to see your
 excellencie: but the consideration of your age and
 imbecillitie, hath made vs forbear
 to trouble you, until this instant, a cause of importance to our
 joy, and your great comfort, happily chancing, (at least) if
 thy fatherly love be such, to see thy supposed lost childe, the
 Princesse Valla, of whom we have receaved tidings, that it
 is in health and safetie, for whose pardonable we have undertaken
 to become a soliciter, and hope of success in our suite: the
 offence being the more pardonable, in that it was af-
 fection, and entire love of that noble Gentleman, the
 knight of the holie Crosse your soldier, and our long friend,
 whose wife, to thy comfort, and honour of your house she is.

There

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Therefore, if thou reioyce in her happinesse, as thy age, and abilitie will giue leaue, come vnto vs, who in person, will accompany you to her presence, who as we here, groweth with the pains of another, as our phisitions enforme vs. And so expecting what we desire from you, we bid you heartilie farewell. At our imperial court, signed with our royal signeto

Augustus Magnus.

These letters written, he read the contents vnto the Ladie Valya, who praying for his long life, she heartily thanked him for his gracious fauour and care of her. Which done, & she there with well pleased, he signed and subscribed the same. When calling one of his Nobles, which was graue, and of honourable account, he deliuered the same, with especiall charge, for the speedie conuay thereof, and secret concealing of the Ladie. Which done (commending him to his journey, and good performance of his charge) hee bid him farewell, to whom hee leane to his trauaile, and the Emperour and the Ladie, vnto theys pleasure, vntill her time of deliuerance, of which you shall here, as soon as the midwife hath done her office.

CHAP. XIII.

How the Knight of the Crosse, by the industrie of the two easterlings and the page was freed from prison, and what chanced to them.



The Noble Edward cloyed with his mishaps, and harsh vblage in his imprisonment, thought euery moneth a yere, and euery minute a moneth, vntill he was at libertie. Oftentimes perswading himselfe to great hazard in freeing him from that captiuitie: And then by intreatie of these, one whose

attending

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attending his pleasure, which neuer left him without comfort, his page folowers doing for him what they could. But as long looked for, comes at last, so the time of his deliuerie drawing neere, and euerie thing effected securely, his guides by whome hee was to be ruled, pretending a journey to Sylo, obtained his horse and armour of the bashaw, for a present to their Bashaw, from whence they came, which closely they conveyed away out of the citie, to a place of seacretie, which they in their idle walke had founde, leaving the Page in his lodging, which was in a Jewes house verie secret. For the Page they obtained Turkish attire, and him furnished very orderly, with a counterfeit mustache, the better to disguise him for being known, having another for the knight, unto whom before their going they had imparted their devise, which was to slay his keeper that evening, when he came to bring him water, and in his apparrell to escape, appointing him a place without the Citie, where they with the Page would carrie his comming. In this done, first conveying the page in his attire, which escaped the watch without suspect: they sought the gaylor, of whome pretending to take a solenne farewell, they carryed him to a Barnard, a place where the Christian Captiues were kept, plying him so with Aqua vitæ, or as they call it Rakcaye, that hee forgot himselfe, that with kindnes and shewes of loue, they procured him to the prison, to take their leaue of the knight, wherein the keeper was no sooner entred, but the Castlerings thinking that the fittest time, gaue him the word to make him away, whilst they kept sure garde for his safetie. By whose devise being ruled, the Gaylor ended his life, with a weapon which they gaue him: which doone, long stood not our knight attyning himselfe in Cerberus apparrell, who being furnished, and disguised with a counterfeit beard, hee aduentured the whole the gate all alone, feining a manner of stumbling and reeling in the gate, and passed the ward, who seeing him in that manner dress, cryed out Buracho, which is to say Drunken. In this doone, his companions seeing all well effected, made no long stay, but presently folloved, and brought him unto the

cane

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came, where the Page with the Esquiers and other souldiers
they potently mounted themselves, and alway they go prai-
sing God for his deliuerance. The haste was made, is not
to be forgotten, who never ceased galloping untill they
came farre without danger of the Moors: where night
overtaking them, they found place fit for their purpose, where
they alighting, gave God prayse, and refreshed them-
selues awhile. Here the knight armed himselfe with his ar-
mour, girding his sword of great worth close to his side,
which done, they againe mounted themselves, and taking
a course as they thought, farre from sight of any theyr old
acquaintance, or keeping any ready way for feare of en-
tercepting, they traualled by ayne. Thus dayes, and some
what more well nere was spent, since their coming
from Ioppa, when they met with a Spere, borne nere Al-
ger, in Barbary, who coming from Myra (the place wher
their Prophet Mahomet was buried) told that they spoiled by
a rout of Arabian thames, which kept those mountains. Of those
spoiling people, the Spere warned the knight and his com-
pany, who were all astonished at his tydings: yet by the most no-
ble knight comforted, relying on his valour, more then they
showe manhood, they proceeded, traualing all that day, yet ne-
uer heard any newes of them. The next morning, the
knight having taken some extraordinary sleep, it was long be-
fore they putte forward, when they had not ridden by theyr
account one league, but they espied a multitude of horsemen
which were so farre from them, on the side of a huge moun-
taine, as they coulde well descerne. This sight caused the
company to doubt of some ensuing evil, which the knight
perceiving, againe encouraged them, so comforting those
his companions with his speeches, that they calld al fere apart,
to take part with him that was not to be doted with enemie
hand bug. In this mind continuing, these faint hearts looking a-
bout them often in their travails (for feare they shold be backed)
they espied another rout, which had them in chase, acquainting
the knight withal, of who he took little care, but commanded them

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to hold on their way easily; that if they followed them, they might overtake them, before the farthest could come to help them.

Long had they not ridden, following the knights directions, before one of the gallants that pursued them, rode come so toward with them, who believing their strength, which he supposed was for to make to encounter them, began in scoffing teames to scold them, especially the knight which he saw armed.

Edward, which brooked all offences unwittingly committed, and courteously reconciled; seeing the peremptorie doings of this base growne, drawing more onto him, said: Base fugitive, who wast thou thyself, that learned thus to be good: hereafter when thou chancest to meet strangers, salute them with more curtesie. And there with all lifting up his Battelaxe, gave him so sound a blow on the head, as the brains started about his horse necke. And he having no power to sit, so fell his horse, falling dead under his feet. This compaignie which saw him fall, and had noted the blow he received, ran all at once to assaile the knight, bending their lances upon his breast, which like a man of power and policie, he cunningly avoided, and drawing his sword, which before he had bathed in the lake warme gore of many those beholders, he so behaved himself, that in few houres he left not many of them to stand: but leaving their horses murtheresse, exchanged such as they best fancied, and left the rest to their owne libertie. The other compaignie, which from the top of the mountain had seen the feats of Armes done by the knight, thinking to avenge those that lived, and to revenge those that were slaine, came amaine upon them, sparing not their horse from the spur, to learne them a swifter pace, (but in ill time) to some came they to the after reckoning: for they were faine to pay the host, who gave them such entertainment, as they had never power to depart from him, so honestly did the honour of knight hood deale with them, whom he found so cruel without cause offered them. In this compaignie there were some Portugall marchants, whose Camels these villaines had spoiled, taking their goods, and kept them captiue, intending to sell them

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them as slaues, to the first caualliers of that countrey. These Marchants being vnder the charge of their horse-keepers, left far off, seeing the ill successe of the robbers, made way for themselves, recovering such weapons as the slaues had, from whome being cleare, they mainly followed the knight, crying vnto him for succor, and earnestly beseeching his saue, which the knight perceiuing, caused the rest to stay, spurring his horse to meete them, to giue them rescue from the slaues that pursued them, from whom they fled with all the hast they could make, but with too slow speed, for some of them were faine to stay behinde their legs being too weak to carrie their bodies. The knight returning from spoile of those slaues, enquired of the marchants of whence they were, they answered of Portugall, and were bound for traffique, with an hundred Camels laden with spice and silke for Constantinople, of all which they had bene spoiled by these villaines, of which fraternitie, there was as many more as he had slaine. The knight which saw the heauie countenance of the poore Marchants, could not forbear to pittie them, & commanded them to horse themselves, vpon the best of theirs which he had slaine, which done, taking care for their rest of vittails, for their horses, and for themselves, they were conducted to the place, where the floze of those theues lay, where they furnished themselves with such viands as they liued with. And after taking thoyse of all maner of furniture, money, spice, and wines, so much as they pleased, they fired the rest, and departed, holding their journey by the Portugals directions, who were verie well acquainted in those mountaines, applying still to recover the holy Cittie of Ierusalem, neuer ceasing to enter any towne or place of force, as you shall hereafter vnderstand.

CHAP.

And

CHAP. XIII.

How the Bashaw of Ioppa missing his prisoner, pursued him, and how he escaped.



Now the covetous Bashaw, which had the custodie of this honourable knight, was perswaded by the Easterlings his friends, that the Bashaw of Silo, would give for his prisoner, tenne hundred thousand Duckats. In hope of which, at their earnest suites he kept him alive, sending his horse, armour, and furniture by them, unto their Bashaw for a present (as before you have heard) but when he missed the knight, the Page, and those Kungates, he was like in choler to have slaine himselfe by desperation to send his soule to the Diuell before his time, from which extremitie, no perswasion of his best and dearest friendes, might any way preuaile, but that in a furie he would mischiefe himselfe, seeing that by his too much trust, he was so deceived of a prisoner, and a fellow of so much worth, as the knight and his Page, whom he intended to yield to his pleasure.

The Bashaw which fared in such frantike manner, being thinking him of all the Diuelish practises could bee intended, called to minde an ancient Divromancer, which kept in the Mountaines, betwene Ioppa and Rama, in the way to Ierusalem. By this good fellow he thought to be reuenged, what soever it cost him, and so comforting himselfe in that hope, hee ceaseth his raging furie, dispatching two of his best approved friendes in search of this diuelish practiser, who used such diligence in their businesse, that in short time they found him, in whom this Bashaw reposed his whole confidence for reuenge.

This diuell incarnate, they intreated with all curtesie, and
best

best pleasing speeches they could frame, to go with them to Ioppa, to the Bashaw, promising great summes of golde for his paine. But all the intreaties or persuasions preuailed nothing with him: if the Bashaw haue ought with him to do, he must be messenger himself, or surcease his businesse: which peremptorie course of this Archduell, vnto the Bashaw made knowne by his friends, though he were in mind grieved at his denial, yet he wisely considered, how vainly he should spend his time in seeking reuenge on him. Wherefore, without any further trouble (accompanied with a garrison of Jencaries, and his two friends for his guides) he set forward from Ioppa, and in time conuenient, came before the Caue, where the Pigromancer kept, who knowing of his coming, thought to be somewhat pleasant with him, to trie his manhood. When the Bashaw had a while attended, & saw none stirring vnto who to speake, he commanded a souldier to knocke: which done, the Caniurer transformed into the likenesse of a monstrous diuell, breathing flames of fire from his nostrils, came out vnto the, whose ugly shape caused them all to such feare, that they wished themselves again in Ioppa, and were ready to take their heeles to be gone. But seeing their timorousnesse, hee tooke another way from them, and inuisibly returned into his caue.

Once againe making triall what was in them, tooke on him the forme of a little goate, thinking they woulde bee doing therewith, if any occasion should be offered them. To prevent therefore what danger in this disguise might insue, he annointed his head and body with an oyntment, which so hardened his skin, that no weapon wou'd pearce it.

This done, he issued againe amongst them, which durst not knocke any more. And appproching neare the Bashaw himselfe, began furiously to sing fire vppon him: which his companie seeing, armed them to his defence, whom the supposed goate enue assailed with fire, sometimes flinging on him so furiously, as hee woulde teare him in peeces, manie times clawing him, that he enforced him to runne away, leaving his message to do for which he came.

This

This conurer when he had plaide his part with him, and saw that he would be gone, thought to speake with him, to see how he liked his entertainment, and shewing him to his wearing apparrell, met him on the way, as if he had no knowledge of his being there.

The Bashaw to his kinsmen which did know him well, when first they had sight of him, shewed the Bashaw, who coming towards him, after the countrey fashion saluted him, and alighting from his horse, breefely tolde him the cause of his coming, beseeching his fauour and helpe for recouerie of the lost knight, for which he promised to reward him to his content.

The sorcerer which saw the enuie of the Bashaw in hope of gaine, promised him to do what art could, for accomplishing his will, crauing respit of time foure or five dayes, that he might finde what way he tooke, which said, and they both thereupon agreeing, they take leaue each of other, whom to their diuellish practise we leaue, returning to the Ladie Vallia.

CHAP. XV.

How the Emperors message being done to the duke of Genoway, for verie ioy of his daughters life he dieth, and what else chanceth.



Here Gentles the storie sheweth vs of the Emperours safe arriual in Rome, where the many courtesies offered to the Ladie was such (as well for her owne sake, being daughter and haire to the noble Duke of Genoway, as for the loue and entire affection of the renowned knight of the Crosse, her honourable and beloued husband) that the Emperour thought himselfe greatly bound vnto all his nobles and communaltie, and highly contented the Ladie his charge, for whose pleasure and content so much cost was employed. The recounting of each particular I omit, leaving

leaving the Lord to the solitarie thoughts of her best beloved
 god, and her gracious father the Duke, from whom the Em-
 perour expected hourly the returne of the noble man, his am-
 bassador, who being as carefull of the charge to him commit-
 ted, spared not his hard and diligent travail, night nor day, un-
 till he recovered the end of his long wished for journey: which
 finished and come to the Emperours presence, prostrating him-
 self on his knee, was most graciously welcomed of the Empe-
 rour, whom he questioned of the Dukes health, and welfare
 of his state. The noble man which imagined how heame the
 newes he had to report, would be to his highnesse, and all the
 heares; humbly besought the Emperour to heare in secret
 what he had to deliver, which the Emperour granted, with-
 out any further delay, which done he sayth.

Tell me (noble friend) what chance hath befallen thee in this
 travell of thine, and how fareth our honorable friend the Duke.
 Gracious liege, and my deare Lord, answered this noble gen-
 tleman, to keepe from your highnesse, what you must know in
 time, though with a heart full fraught with griefe, it troubles
 me greatly, to become the bearer of such tragick
 newes. Know (most excellent Prince) the Duke hath left this
 life, to seeke the ioyes of the heavenly Hierarchie. The Empe-
 rour whose thoughts were surpris'd with heavynesse, hearing
 his long deferred answer to his questions, breathing out ma-
 ny sighes at the deliverie of the same, with sighes and bitter
 teares (after he had a while lamented, with many monnell
 cries, and pitifull speeches, the Dukes death) he straightly char-
 geth the noble man, to deliver unto him the time of his depart-
 ure from this world, and the cause: whether of any old griefe,
 or suddaine action: commaunding him (all bread set a part) to
 tell the truth.

The noble man (whose heauie heart by his outward sor-
 rowes might well appeare, thought hee could well have so-
 borne the revealing thereof, yet not daring through silence, to
 trouble his highnesse displeasure he sayth. Most gracious so-
 veraigne thus, and in this manner, faced it with the Duke at my
 first

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First arrivall at his princely Court, who frolicke with the best, ioyfull and pleasant to heare of your Maiesties health, as his loue might well appeare, by those welcomes I receiued from him, and his Nobles, by his commaund, of whom I was so intertaind, as well might beseme a state of great account and maiestie, reuerencing your highnesse, in those honours done me. But for some (dead and excellent Emperour) was the gleaming ioyes of this courtly Nobilitie overshadowed with mylke of direfull sorrow, chancing by the Dukes suddaine death, who as it is supposed by his people, most in account with him; ouer ioyed at your excellent kind tidings of his supposed lost child, surprised with a surphaine of exceeding gladnesse left his honorable life, to the great heauinesse of his subjects, as well his Nobles as Commons, who with most bitter and grievous complaints, spende their time in such continuall lamentation, as might moue the heart most tender, with teares, to accompany them.

The Nobles for the comfort of their Duke, with whom they were neuer where (onely there reuerend piete reserved) companions in all exercises. The Commons hee oppressed not: the wronged, he by law iustlie restored to right: the widow and fatherlesse, hee carefully provided for: the maimed souldiour, most bountifullly maintained. In briebe, (most excellent, and my gracious soueraigne) there is no state, no subject, or any vnder his government, which hath not great cause to mounre the losse of this good Duke.

This dolefull discourse he finished with so deepe a sigh, as pressed teares from his ouer-griued heart, which restraining his tongue, caused him to bee silent, and moued the Emperour at his sorrow to shedde many teares, which being suddenlie ouerpast, the grieuing and most gracious Emperour, raising the Noble man from the ground, louingly embracing him, saide.

A tale of sorrowe, and much griefe hast thou deliuered, which moued my heart to lament, the death of such a most honoured Prince, and to grieve for those subjects, whose losse is so

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so great. But tell mee, who governeth the
howe affect they the returne of the ...
Lord (answered this so:portfull Noble man
verall consent, is in the rule of Don ...
Noble Gentleman, of grave countenance
wise, and most noble manners, who for
fortunate suite of the subjects of all estat
table for carelessly himself: so that by his
late dead, is in justice and all other good
byed, little minding, to be equall with the
acknowledged: so that the happiness of
more, in so provident a government. The
till with your highness, and all other
such line, which varied honour, and
weale, before their own countours and
where lawes are not so: for the pleas
rupt Justice, where through the pure
Communis doctrine, and the state unpo
God honoured, and the Prince truly living
blessings be, there is love of subjects, and
their prince. Well hast thou sayd (quoth
in thy speech hast comforted my spirit
counte the honours of this noble Count
not ever for thy honourable reputation
committed the secrets of his ambassie to
great wisdom, with that the sundaine
way discomfited the Lade, whose well
stone good. And so befalling the Emperor
die for the Lade's sake, and the noble
amongst his friends, for reasons against
who is now in the way to the holy Cite.

quoth the Countesse, and answered him
that aid to come, and the
aid committed against the
should to old and not and argued
ed

This coniturer when he had plaide his part with him, and saw that he would be gone, thought to speake with him, to see how he liked his entertainment, and shifting him to his wearing apparrell, met him on the way, as if he had no knowledge of his being there.

The Bashaw his kinsmen which did know him well, when first they had sight of him, shewed the Bashaw, who comming towards him, after the countrey fashion saluted him, and alighting from his horse, breefely tolde him the cause of his coming, beseeching his fauour and helpe for recouerie of the lost knight, for which he promised to reward him to his content.

The sorcerer which saw the enuie of the Bashaw in hope of gaine, promised him to do what art could, for accomplishing his will, crauing respite of time foure or five dayes, that hee might finde what way he tooke, which said, and they both thereupon agreeing, they take leaue each of other, whom to their diuellish practise we leaue, returning to the Ladie Vallia.

CHAP. XV.

How the Emperors message being done to the duke of Genoway, for verie ioy of his daughters life he dieth, and what else chanceth.



Ere Gentles the storie sheweth vs of the Emperours safe arriual in Rome, where the many courtesies offered to the Ladie was such (as well for her owne sake, being daughter and haire to the noble Duke of Genoway, as for the loue and entire affection of the renowned knight of the Crosse, her honourable and beloued husband) that the Emperour thought himselfe greatly bound vnto all his nobles and communaltie, and highly contented the ladie his charge, for whose pleasure and content so much cost was employed. The recounting of each particular I omit, leaving

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leaving the Ladie to the solitarie thoughts of her best beloved Lord, and her gracious father the Duke, from whom the Emperour expected hourly the returne of the noble man, his ambassador, who being as carefull of the charge to him committed, spareth not his hard and diligent travail, night nor day, until he recovered the end of his long wished for journey: which finished and come to the Emperours presence, prostrating himselfe on his knee, was most graciously welcomed of the Emperour, whom he questioneth of the Dukes health, and welfare of his State. The noble man which imagined how heauie the newes he had to report, would be to his highnesse, and all the hearers, humbly besought the Emperour to heare in secret what he had to deliuer, which the Emperour granted, withdrawing himselfe of purpose, which done, he saith.

Tell me (noble friend) what chance hath befallen thee in this travell of thine, and how fareth our honorable friend the Duke. Gracious liege, and my deare Lord, answered this noble gentleman, to keepe from your highnesse, what you must know in time, though with a heart full fraught with griefe, it cumbereth me greatly, to become the heauie messenger of such tragick newes. Know (most excellent Prince) the Duke hath left this life, to seeke the ioyes of the heauenly Hierarchie. The Emperour whose thoughts were surprized with heauinesse, hearing his long deferred answer to his questions, breathing out manie sighes at the deliuerie of the same, with sighes and bitter teares (after he had a while lamented, with many mouing cries, and pitifull shreakes, the Dukes death) he straightly chargeth the noble man, to deliuer vnto him the time of his departure from this world, and the cause: whether of any old griefe, or suddaine action: commaunding him (all bread set a part) to tell the truth.

The noble man (whose heauie heart by his outward sorrowes might well appeare, thought hee could well haue so borne the reuealing thereof, yet not daring through silence, to tincture his highnesse displeasure he saith. Most gracious soveraigne thus, and in this manner, faced it with the Duke at my

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first arrivall at his princely Court, who frolicke with the best, ioyfull and pleasant to heare of your Maiesties health, as his loue might well appeare, by those welcomes I receiued from him, and his Nobles, by his commaund, of whom I was so intertained, as well might beseme a state of great account and maiestie, reuerencing your highnesse, in those honours done me. But too soone (dread and excellent Emperour) was the gleaming ioyes of this courtly Nobilitie overshadowed, with mysts of direfull sorow, chancing by the dukes suddaine death, who as it is supposed by his people, most in account with him, ouer ioyed at your excellent kind trydings of his supposed lost child, surprised with a surphare of exceeding gladnesse, left his honorable life, to the great heavynesse of his subiects, as wel his Nobles as Commons, who with most bitter and grievous complaints, spende their time in such continuall lamentation, as might moue the heart most hardest, with teares, to accompany them.

The Nobles for the comfort of their Duke, with whom they were verie where (onely there reuerend due tie reserved) companions in all exercises. The Commons hee oppressed not: the wronged, he by law iustlie restored to right: the widow and fatherlesse, hee carefully provided for: the maimed souldiour, most bountifullly maintained. In briebe, (most excellent, and my gracious soueraigne) there is no state, no subiect, or any vnder his gouernment, which hath not great cause to imploye the losse of this good Duke.

This dolefull discourse he finished with so deepe a sigh, as pressed teares from his ouer-griued heart, which restraining his tongue, caused him to bee silent, and moued the Emperour at his sorow to shedde many teares, which being suddenly ouerpast, the grieuing and most gracious Emperour, raising the Noble man from the ground, louingly embracing him, saide.

A tale of sorowe, and much griefe hast thou deliuered, which moued my heart to lament, the death of such a most honoured Prince, and to griene for those subiects, whose losse is so

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so great. But tell mee, who gouerneth the Dukedome: and howe affect they the returne of the Princesse: Most gracious Lord (answered this sorrowfull Noble man) the state by a generall consent, is in the rule of Don Sebastian Andrea, a Noble Gentleman, of graue countenance, verie politique, wise, and most noble enclined, who forces vnto it by the importunate suite of the subiects of all estates, in most honourable sort carrieth himselfe: so that by his rule, their Prince late dead, is in iustice and all other good partes before remembred, little missing, to be equall onelie, the nobilitie of his house acknowledged: so that the happinesse of the Countrey is the more, in so prouident a gouernour. The like of whom, I haue tiste with your highnesse, and all other Princes: for where such liue, which pryed honour, and the publike common weale, before their owne cotietous and priuate commoditie, where lawes are not solde for Lords pleasures, nor bybes corrupt Iustices, where through the poore are oppressed, the Commons vndone, and the state impouerished, there is God honoured, and the Prince truly serued. And where such blessings be, there is love of Subiects, and faithfull hartes to their princes. Well hast thou sayd (quoth the Emperour) and in thy speech hast comforted my spirites, to heare the discourse the honours of this noble Gouernour, whom I will honour euer for thy honourable report: on which meditating, he committed the secrecie of his aunswere to the Nobleman his great wisdom, loath that the suddaine newes shoulde any way discomfort the Ladie, whose welfare he prised before his owne good. And so betaking the Emperour to his carefull studie for the Ladies quiet, and the noble Messenger to his repose amongst his friends, we returne againe to our noble Edward, who is now in the way to the holy Citie.

CHAP. 1
H 2

How the Knight of the holy Crosse, accompanied with the Portugals, and his other companions iournied to the citie of Ierusalem, and what happened them.



When the noble Edward had by his prowess, and honourable feates of Armes, by death of those miscreants, released the Portugall Marchants from theyr captiuitie, storing themselves with such needfull provision, as they coulde conveniently carrie. They spedde themselves with all the haste they could, to end their desired businesse, and fulfill their bowes in the holie Citie, keeping the way continually by the Mountanes, without any aduenture happening, untill one of the Easterlings, fell into such danger of death, that there was no way to recover him, which the pittifull Knight perceyuing, and hoping the best for his recoverie, making his stay to see the end, what would become of him, hee applied himselfe by all meanes to seeke his reconerie, which was past all remedie. In which extremitie, our brave English Cavalere, playing the part of a heavenly Physitian, comforted his weake patient, in the promises of Christ Iesus, and his passion, earnestly perswading him, to remember his time euill spent in this worlde, and howe manie and grievous sinnes hee had committed for any danger, or hope of worldly promotions, to forsake his Saviour, whose mercies was more to be regarded, then a legion of lues, or all the Kingdomes of the worlde.

In which comfortable wordes the distressed Easterling taking great pleasure, when the houre came of his latestt farewell to the worlde, embracing the Knight betwene his armes, when his faltring tongue had lost the vse of speech he

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he shewed by signes, the hopes he had to be a copartner of the heavenly kingdome, and therewithall refined his breath, whom after the Christian manner in those mountaines, they entered as they best could, which done (sorrowing for the losse of him whom from death they coule not recall) they procéde on their iourney, in which they had not long trauailed, but resting themselves in the desarts by a pleasant riuers side. The Mooze which befoze hee had taken to attende their hozles, discreped comming with great speede towards them, a verie faire and beautifull woman, attired in a petticoate of crimson damaske, which was pursued by two Negroes slaues, which would violently haue abused her bodie. This strange sight in a place so vncouth, when the Mooze had shewed the knight, like himselfe moued with pittie of distressed people, especially of her sere, presently mounted himselfe, and met her, whom he questioned of whence she was, and what moued her to flie so swiftly from those villians. The Lady whom feare had almost dauned to death, being in a greuous extasie, could not forbear to shewe the signe of ioy by her iesture, albeit her heart restrained her tongue speech, which the knight perceiuing, taking her in his armes, and brandishing his sword, thereby shewing to reuenge her wrong, he comforted her in such wise, as taking assured hope on him, which seemed by his habite to bee a christian, she said. Honourable knight, whom God hath rayled for the comfort of a poore distressed captiue, know that I am wife vnto a noble Grecian knight, called Macharias, gouernour of Roades, who traauiling with a small traine to performe our religious bowes in the holy Citie, now two nights past, taking our lodging in these desarts, our tents pitched, and our guard having fire, as wel for our vse, to dreffe and make ready our viands, as to defend themselves from the wilpe beasts that haunt these mountaines, a crew of cruell and most brutish heathen, that keepe these places to disturbe the quiet of such passengers as they met, guided by the fire (as I said) came vnto our tents, whilst wee sleeping, dreaded neither them, nor any other euill. By those catties was my most noble husband slaine, and such

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of our companie, as resisted their diuellish intents: which done, making mee their Captiue, they hoised mee, and to theyr hellish mansion ledde mee, with some of our followers, where perforce they woulde haue bereaft mee of that most precious ornament which all good Women holde in more regarde then then theyr life: yet preserved by Gods fauour, my teares and pittious cries did so penetrate the hearts of those homicides, that they haue pardoned mee that ill, vntill theyr returne from a spoyle which they haue undertaken, meaning to visite theyr home within thre or foure dayes, leauing mee to the custodie of their Villaines, who with more villanie haue menaced mee to obtaine theyr pleasures, from whome hauing escaped by flight, I intreate you, that theweth to be of gentle linage, if thou bee no worse then thou seemest, eyther to preserve my chastitie from theyr rape by slaying mee, or like thy selfe, defende my innocencie, by auenging me on those accursed villaines that pursue me.

The knight which during her long talke, had noted her gesture and modest demeanour, uttering her sadde lament, pittying her distresse sayde. Gentle Ladie, thy distresse my heart pitttyeth, seeing thee in this vnfrequented place, so hardly besette with companions of base conditions, of whome feare not, for my selfe by the power of him that sent mee for thy comfort, will so reuenge thy ill cause, as well on these, as on theyr maisters, as they shall neuer take pleasure in wronging a Ladie anie more: and therewith assure you, as I am a knight and a Christian. And without taking longer pause, willing the Ladie to stay yet there, without dread of any man, he mounted his horse, and with his sword pursued the villaines, who fearing him, fledde as fast as they coulde, but in an vnhappy time, for his legges being of more stoutnesse, hee easily overtook them, paying them theyr due recompence for a fact so odious with death. Which finished, cutting off theyr heades, hee brought them with him to the Ladie, who

thanking

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thanking God for her deliuerance, rendered the like to the noble knight, vnto whome prostrating her selfe, shee submitted the care of her safetie, beseeching him as hee was a knight at armes, not to dishonour her, nor to leaue her vntill hee came where Christians inhabited. Vnto which, gaging his honour, by many solemn oathes, hee tooke her from the grounde, comforting her with all kindnesse, protesting withall, that he would not leaue those desarts vsought, vntill hee founde the dead bodie of her Horde, to interre him with Christian rites, and reuenge his death on the robbers.

The Ladie which founde such vnerpected comfort in her distresse, after shee hadde with many kinde requittall of friendshippe, and shewes of loue, gratified the knight, breaking her from her protestations, hee caused her to mount his horse, conducting her to his Tent, where they dinner, by those that helde him in more regarde then thier owne liues, was prepared, vnto whome the Ladie tolde welcome, wanting nothing of they store which was needfull, nor such honours as to her estate required. In this better content we leaue them a while, with sundrie discourses to beguile the time, to lette you knowe of they further aduentures.

CHAP.

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CHAP. XVII.

Howe the Knight of the Holy Crosse in search of the dead body of Mathanias, gouernour of Roades, found him alive, with other aduentures.



He remaine of that day and the night following they spent in reposing themselves, the knight after he had taken such directions for his course in search of the Gouernour, her husband, as she could giue, paying them of victuals for two dayes provision, accompanied with two of the best fugall marchants, taking leaue of the Lady, and commending the trust of her safetie vnto the rest of his followers, he left them: passing from mountaine to mountaine, prying and delving where hee could discerne any Tent, or shew of any. So long rid he in this manner, that in the evening, about the going downe of the Sunne, hee might discerne a troupe of Camilles laden, guarded with three or foure naked mountenaries, to these the knight speede him in all the haste, making such way, that hee soone ouertooke them, whome encountring, hee sayde. Tell me villaines of whence yee are, yea, and where had yee these Camilles with those marchandize in your keeping. The villaine mounteniers hearing the knight vse these speeches, vttered with a hoarse voyce and a looke threating death, trembling as though they were readie to receiue their iudgement and present execution of life, kissing first the grounde, and after his feete, besought him to take compassion of them, relating in what sort they hadde the Camilles, which they hadde taken from others which hadde them in charge, belonging to those Thieues which hadde spoyled the Lady of her husband.

The

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The knight understanding by theyr talke that they could give him notice of the spoiled bodies, questioned them further, commaunding them on paine of theyr liues, to tell him where the Christians were, that were lately maisters of those Camilles, in doing which theyr liues should goe vntouched, or otherwise they should there finish their daies.

The villaines which would more willingly haue bene further off, when they sawe their liues was to bee saved for a matter of such small importance with them, sayde. The sunne hath not yet two times declined his power, since certaine Christians traouailing these mountaines, were encountred by robbers, that haue their continuall being not farre off, who slaying the people, left these Camilles and goods in possession of their slaues to condeit them to theyr care, which wee haue slaine, and humbly beseech thee of pardon.

Recreants (quoth the knight) you shall not so escape me, but you shall likewise die, if you bring me not presently to the place where those slaughtered bodies lie, wherefore I aduise you do this and liue, or denying it receiue your deaths.

The villaines which sawe howe bootlesse it was to perswade, yelded theyr consentes, and hastned with so good speede, that they shortly arrined at the place, where they founde the mangled carcases of the slaine Christians, weltering in their goze.

This pittifull sight moued the knight of the Crosse to much ruth and sorow for their deaths, yet knowing howe bootlesse teares are to call againe the dead, dismounting himselfe, hee saruaged the bodies, turning, and so often tossing, to search the body of the dead governour, that with often remouing hee founde it, and viewing his personage, noting each linament, with his countenaunce, shewing a man of prouesse, bedewing his bloudie face with his warme teares, hee might perceiue a panting breath to pos-

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yfelle him, vnto which taking good heede, washing his face, and
 clearing it from the congealed bloud, hee opened his iawes,
 powring into his mouth, of that wine which he brought for his
 prouision, and after rubbing & chafing his bytall powers, hee
 recouered his life: so comfortng him with the heat of his hands,
 rubbing and other carefull handling, that his spirit waxing
 strong, his tongue had some vse, when looking gassly vp, as
 one reuied from a new world, hee called for his Ladie, and
 mistng her, taking good notice of the Knight, which was a
 stranger vnto him, he thus said. Noble Gentlemen, and my
 frendes, what pasture I know not, neither can I remember
 that euer I haue had any friendship with you, yet as you are
 Gentlemen, tell me of my Ladie, what is become of her, whe-
 ther alieue or dead: next, what you are, whether frendes, or
 those that brought me to this miserie?

The knight whose heart was ouercome with subdaine joy,
 beholding the supposed dead to liue, and speak, answered: wo-
 thie and noble Gouernor of that most honoured Island, know,
 we are Christians as you are, who hearing of thy distresse, haue
 undertaken to finde thy body, supposed to be slaine, by spoylers
 of such as passe these mountaines, and here haue their residence.
 Thy Ladie I haue receiued from their tyrannie, and on their
 liues, haue redemmed the euill offered, by them vnto her, and
 by my maker, whose souldour I am bound, will not depart
 these desarts, vntill I be acquitted, of all your wrongs, or
 lose my life in your causes. Therefore take comfort, and
 thanke God for your safetie, whom I doubt not, but will be so
 gracious to redeme you: your wounds I will undertake by
 Gods grace to cure, and deliuer in safetie your loue and
 Ladie who liuing, dyeth with very sorrow for your great
 mishap. The Gouernour hearing this comfort, well noting
 the manlike countenance and courage of the Knight, bending
 himselfe vnto him, rendered many heartie thanks for those
 kinde fauours, and embracing the Knight as his weake arms
 would giue him leaue, protested by the faith and honour of
 armes, for euer to become a firme frende and faithful repara-

ner

Knight of the holy Crosse

ner of his aduentures, so pleased him to accept of his loue and fellowship.

The knight whom no Spaniard could match, eyther in courtesie or honour of Armes, taking his proffered loue as kindly as they were offered, gaue him many heartie thanks. Then dressing his woundes with such comfortable Balmes as he had, and binding them safe, they hoised him, pacing easily towarde the place where his company made their stay: where by the pzeuidence of him, who is the strength and conduct of all those that trust in him, they arrived in safetie, though not before they were lookt for, accompanied with their tents, camells, and their carriages, to the exceeding ioy of the Ladie, and the unspeakable comfort of all his owne followers. They friendly embrasings, and other talke of their fortunes, passing betwene the Gouverneur and his Ladie, I omit: to recount what other aduentures happened to them.

CHAP



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CHAP. XVIII.

How the Knight of the Holy Crosse, accompanied with the Easterling and his Page, followed the robbers: with his adventure.



Edmund Edward, the honour of his countrey, whose valour was not to be matched, held his countreys reputation in more regard then his life, whereon now standing, scorning the Spaniards braues, or the scandal that might ensue by his report, if he should leave them in such wise without reuenge, which he had promised: wherefore preferring his noble word, early in the morning, according to the directions he had given, taking leave of the gouernour and his Ladie, accompanied with his Page and the Easterling, he sette forward in search of those bloudie minded reprobates, following the direction of one of the villaines he had last taken, whom he taketh for his guide, all that day riding without any adventure hapning, yet wearied with trauaile, desirous to refresh himselfe with taking some sleepe, hee caused his Tent to bee prepared, and his viandes to bee ordained: and when hee had refreshed himselfe, not daring to committe the trust of his person, to so vile a slaue, which was not to be trusted. After theyr horses were vled as they ought, he commaunded the slaue to be bounde, taking order with his companie that one should watch whilst the other slept, and to take diligent care of their wellfares, that they were not surprised at vnwares.

This charge the carefull attendaunts saythfully kept and performed, the day appearing, they loosed the Villaine from his bondes, ordering the horses and each thing in

Knight of the holy Crosse.

In readinesse: which done, they awaked the knight, who seeing the morning well spent, was not long preparing, but hastning with all the speede he might, betooke him to his intended pursuit of those homicides. So long they traualled, that y^e heat of the day encreasing, they alighted, and seating them close on the banke of a pleasant riuer (taking such viands as they had, merrily spending the time with pleasant parlie) they might perceiue those gallants, who returning from the death of a heathen Prince, and spoyle of his people, missing their Ladie, bowed by all their gods neuer to surcease their trauaile, vntill they had recovered knowledge of her. For which, coursing like men posselt with a furie in puruite of the Ladie, the knight hath gained his desires, who requiring of the same what they were, mounted on such swift coursers: he recounted vnto him what they were, aduising him to regarde himselfe, and to flic while he had time, for that they were many, and men of great puillance, hauing done many great outrages, and surprised sundry troupes of gallant men, trauailing that way. Pleasant (quoth the knight) it is not thy speech of their valour that can daunt me, or cause me to turne my backe, vpon those diuelish companions. But as I am a knight, and a true English man, or euer haue hope to beholde my native Country, were they a thousand to my selfe alone, armed as I am, in the name of my God, and hope of my rightful cause, I would assaile them. And so arming himselfe, chearing his Page, and his associates, hee mounted his horse, couching his staffe in his rest, he put forwardes to meete the companie of robbing theues, who was no sooner espied of them, but without word speaking most furiously they all assailed him, who were all so well resisted, and so eagerly encountred of the knight, as they had small cause to boast them of their gaires. Euerie blow, with blow, redoubled this noble Brytaine on the robbers, doing such feates of hono^r and chiuallrie, that it amazed them to see: but more terrified they were, that must of force abide his furie, who sparing not his strength, laide on them with such courage, crying Saint George, that after many sharpe alarms on either

part,

A pleasant Historie of the

part, many of them were sent to seeke their passeports in hell. Thus our noble knight encouraged with the hope of victorie, so behaved himselfe, that they were all well neare brought to ende. The Captaine of which route, with foure others his confederates, being men of valour, and resolution, seeing the massacre of their companie, sought to reuenge their bloods with their greatest power. And enclosing him on each side, layde about them in such manner, that the knight was by them greatlie endaungered. In this assault was his horse slaine, when fighting a foote, espying his best aduantage, he gozed their horses as they came, and gaue them that their mothers neuer prouided for them: yet in despite of what hee coulde doe, as the mightiest manie times hee forced to yeelde, fighting on the ground, and in the greatest danger of life. The Page which singled himselfe from the broyle, wherein hee left the Castling, bestirred him, whereby hee had leaue to breathe, and being somewhat refreshed, reaching violently one of the robbers by the legge, pulld him perforce from his horse, mounting himselfe thereon, and dashing out his maisters braines with his heeles.

The knight nowe againe mounted, so bestirred him, in that the most brauest of them that liued, coulde well haue afforded to beene further off, but they which are bounde must obey. The game was nowe bied, and they must needes see it. So long bied and reuiued was it by the knight, that not one was left to count the stake.

The broyle ended, and euerie act in this massacre performed, the knight beholding those bracing hell-houndes, weltering in their blood, first thanking God for his fauour, in strengthening him in that distresse, resting himselfe after his wearie trauaile, hee disarmed himselfe, refreshing his wearie bodie for a time: which done, he hasteneth him vnto the place where they Gouvernour and his Ladie remained, whom in the companie of his beloued wife was comforted, where with great ioy he was welcomed, to all his folowers, who with the Ladie, ceased not to pray for his good successe.

Thus

Knight of the holy Crosse.

Thus leaue we this frolicke companie, loyng in the good fortunes of the Knight, who reposed him selfe with those friendes, vntill the Gouernour had recovered his full strength, to trauaile, when leauing the desertes, they proceeded on theyr iourney to the Citie of Ierusalem. In which trauaile wee leaue them, to shewe you the fortunes of the noble and vertuous Ladie Vallia, remaining with the Emperour in Rome.

CHAP. XIX.

How the Lady Vallia, sorowing for the death of her father, trauelled with childe, and what then chanced her.



Nowe the time and place of the Hystorie serueth vs to leaue the noble Edwards and his companie, to let you heare of the vertuous Ladie Vallia, who trauailing with womens ordinarie griefe, had not long to looke of her time, wherein she expected an heire to the woorthie knight of the Crosse: which caused the Emperour to detaine the heauie tidings of her fathers death from her. But as nouelties haue wings, and flie with the light breath of euerie talking tongue: so this lamentable storie came vnto the eares of Vallia, who for her recreation and pleasure, walking in a Park adioyning to the Pallace, was encountred by a simple Souldiour, who hauing lost his limmes in seruice, aboyted to impart his suite vnto the Emperour for reliefe.

With this Souldiour, the Ladie questioning what seruices hee had seene, as one that had knowledge of many honorable seruices done, but especially glad to heare of her Lord and husband, whose demaunds the Souldiour answered with much courage, not letting for his owne good to vtter all: in which his speech, declaring the woorthie conquest of Philip her

her father (where he was,) a suddaine feare so possess him, that his tongue with griefe denied further speech: which of the Lady being perceiued, moued with pittie of his sorrow, enquired diligently what moued him on such a suddaine to stay his talke, beginning now the most delight, willing him to say on whatsoeuer he had: for sure she was, that nought but honourable should be said of her father, or her loue, who was with him in all those seruices.

This blunt companion recomforted by her honourable counsell, and good encouragement, seeing hee must utter his hearts greefe, albeit hee had no thought or knowledge to whom he spake it, after some small pause, he said. Pardon me, gracious Ladie, for my heauie tidings, and account me no daftard for daring to speake, what is my hearts griefe, to utter the subiect of my tragicall sounding sorrow, to all the hearers. For the losse of our noble generall, whose vntimely death hath caused such heauinesse and hearts discontent amongst all those of his government, that will neuer bee blotted from theyr mindes, so long as any one breatheth that did know him. The sorrowfull Ladie hearing these dolefull tidings of her fathers losse, could not answer his talke, nor had power to speake, but as one readie to leaue this life, presently fell in a traunce to the ground, whome her greued attendants Alynda, and the rest, by their carefull industrie reuiued againe, though with much extremitie. The poore souldiour which saw howe ill his talke was taken, brooked no longer stay in that place, doubting his Princes displeasure, but got him from the Citie with all speed.

Vallia her suddaine greefe bzged her paines, that her Midwives were sent for, and with great perill of life, was not long after, deliuered of two goodly Sonnes, whose sight, and other comfortable perswasions of the Emperour, and those Ladies that were about her, remooued a little her heauinesse, which shee most honourable endured to all theyr ioyes, for this good fortune of the Ladie, solemne Processions were made, Belles were rung, and Bonafires were plentifull,

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plentifull throughout the Citie, with all other shewes and signes of gladnesse that might be deuised. But to whom so euer these two netue bozne Gentlemen was most welcome, there coulde none take moze pleasure in beholding them, then the Emperour, who woulde neuer haue anie time from his affaires of state, but the Purces were sure of his companie, to their ioy, and pleasures. In this offspring I leaue them, to recount the accidents happening in Genoway.

CHAP. XX.

Howe Albert Duke of Millaine, hearing of the death of Philip Duke of Genoway, supposing his Daughter to bee dead, made claime to the Segnorie, and what chaunced.



When the high commander of men, had by death taken from his Countrey the hope and comfort of this most louing and honourable Prince, Philip Albert, Duke of Millaine, swelling with ambition, to enlarge his gouernement, first of all Vallia, and heere of Philip, to be first: first summoned the Vicegerent by his Herald, to accept of him, and the little he had, for their soueraigne, or abide the chaunces of warres, which with al the power, both of him and his friends, he would presently inflict vpon them.

This peremptorie message deliuered, the Vicegerent hauing care to his oath and promise made, summoned the Nobilitie, and gouernours of each port, within those confines, vnto whom hee recounteth the message receiued from the Millaine Duke, with all the large circumstances, declaring his title to be but vsurped, and desiring their aydes in the right of the Ladie Vallia, heere and lawfull inheritrix of their late deceased Lord, whome they should most highly wrong, if dastardlie they

her father (where he was,) a suddaine feare so possesse him, that his tongue with griefe denied further speech: which of the Lady being perceiued, moued with pittie of his sorrow, enquired diligently what moued him on such a suddaine to stay his talke, beginning now the most delight, willing him to say on whatsoeuer he had: for sure she was, that nought but honourable should be said of her father, or her loue, who was with him in all those seruices.

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they

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they should intitle another in her right. Therefore my Lordes and loving friends, (quoth the Governour) strive in maintaining the honour and right of this Ladie, your loue to her father, in which you gaine more loue and honour, then to be intitled with title of great worth. For no greater blemish can be to the Noble, then to bee tearmed a coward, especiallie in a cause of such honour as this. Therefore, if you will ioyne with mee in full consent, esteeme his threats not worth a pinne, and provide to giue him such a welcome, as is fitte for an enemye.

XXI. CHAP.

The Nobles and all estates there assembled, hearing the honourable resolution of the Governour, with generall consent lauding his magnanimitie, committed themselves vnto him, promising on their honours, to maintaine with their bodies, goods, liues, and landes, whatsoever he resolved on.

This willingness with generall consent when the Governour had seene and heard first giuing them all hearty thanks for their honourable loue to their Princeesse, and carefull regard of their common wealth, which they were all bounde by oath to the Church, as well as the signorie to maintaine. After some other speech he caused the Mullaine herault to be brought before them, to whom he saith: Herault, thy message from thy Lord so peremptorie sent, and by thee deliuered, with grane aduise of the whole state of our Province, we haue aduisedly considered. And finding by lawe, or natures right, hee hath no right nor iust interest in the same, wee haue determined to denie his demaunde, and with our dearest blood will maintaine the lawfull issue of our late deceased Duke Philip, whose honourable deserts can not bee so suddainlie worne out. Thou knowest what wee intende, if thy Lord bee friend to vs, and our state, wee will requite his loue with the like againe, if a foe, hee shall find that Philippes rightfull inheritour shall not bee wronged, so long as wee shall liue. And so finishing his speech, the Heraulde thus replied.

Nobles,

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And Nobles of Genoway, whose grauntie is spoken of in all places, beateyne not your selues by presumption. My Lord is puissant and mightie, and not to bee daret by them of farre greater and more force then you: wherefore weighing your owne goodes, and welfare of your Countrey and state, consider with whome you are to deale, his honour, state, power, and what is to bee requyred in Maiestie, bethinking what a friend hee is to his friendes, and what a terrour to his enemies. In weighing all which I doubt not, but your grauntie and wisdom will alter these sonde resolutions, before you prouoke him to furie, least when you woulde submitte your selues, hee bee as farre of from hearing you, as you are peremptorie in refusing him. In your answer, consider your welfare, or subuersion. Therefore let not querbolnesse leade you to mischief: I speake as I tolde, that you might prevent your owne mischieses.

The Gouvernour hearing the Herauld speake so much of submission, as though his Lordes countenance might terrifie and affright them, even as Bugbeares do children, thus sayde.

Heraulde, what weenest thou wee of the state of Genoway are, that thus thou menacest us with thy matters high actions, power, and friends? Is Albert become such a Bugge to feare his bordering neighbours? No, let him dare children and fooles, with his thyetes. If hee come as a friend, as hee did when our good Philip liued, he shall bee welcome: if otherwise, it is neither power, friendes, nor his valour wee esteeme. Our honour wee will maintaine in despite of his Bearde, maugre all the friendes Spaine, or Italie can affoorde him. And so thou hast thy answer: replie no more: for what wee say, we will performe on our honours, as thy Lordes shall finde, when hee dares make triall.

The Heraulde hauing his answer, like a Male content, dooing his dutie, departed. The Noble and states of Genoway, taking carefull order for the mustering of theyr

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souldiers, and making force, that there enemy might not take them sleeping, but alwaies in readinesse, when occasion should serue to defende themselves, and offende the enemy.

CHAP. XXI.

How the Herald returning his answer from the Genowales, Albert puruaied his armie.



The Gallant Duke expecting his Herald's return, with the Genowales offer of obedience, after long looking, arrived at the Court, to whom the Duke gave honorable welcomes, enquiring the answer to his Ambassage. To whom the Herald at large recounted the honorable resolution of the gouernour, who would not deliuer their tytle of government to any stranger whatsoeuer, willing him to rest content, or abide what chance warre will alote him.

The Gallant Duke raging with furie, at this vnerpected answer, vowed by his simple oathes to reuenge him on the gouernour, whom he threatened with great afflictions, if hee prevailed: And hasting to see the event of his determinations, presently dispatcheth his Ambassage to Florence, the protuelle of Marcellus and Telone, and other his frendes, for they are in this exployt, willing them to be readie by a day prefixed, at some port of his, to them best becomming good, and most easie for their conuay. With these letters, the messengers being gon, great was the preparation made in his owne territories, of men, victuals and munition, whereof there wanted none, such as the Countrey yeeldeth. Such was the hast and care of those vnto whom the charge of those affairs were committed, that in short time, all things were provided in such good order as could be desired, their onely stay was, for their expected power,

which

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which accordingly was put in hand, some marching by lande, others with theyr provision by sea, so that in short time they are all well met, at Millaine, where they made no long tarrye, but every man receiving his charge.

The companies appointed to the land, marched forwards in three battailes, the foremost of which, was led by the Duke of Florence, the backward by the gouernour of Marcellus, and the Mereward, by the Duke of Millaine, who hadde under his conduct, all the horsemen, with the carriage and provision. For the sea service, was appointed to be Admirall, Alfonse Earle of Piemont, having under his charge of Gallies, Bregandines and Rowles, one hundred and fiftie sayles, warlike and well appoynted, with all needefull provision, having also under his charge, a number approued and Noble Captaines, trayned to the sea, all carrying minde of resolution to iustifie theyr Noble freendes the Duke of Millaine, in his challenged Duke.

The Venetianes, whose prouident care was to provide for their Countries safetie, was not idle in all these times: but making ready what power they coulde, both of theyr owne, and such other freendes as they coulde procure, relying on the iustice of their cause, and nought at all fearing the multitudes of theyr enemies, of whose numbers they were all aduertised by theyr owne Espies.

The carefull regarde of the Gouernour, hadde so wrought, that all things were ordered to his content, his freendes, the Neapolitan Duke with his powers being come, and all others that they expected, theyr Gallies and shippes furnished, the conduct of each severall company was appoynted to men of worth and honourable resolution, who encamped themselves with wonderfull great power without the Cittie, when in the enemies chace passage.

And thus the Duke of Millaine

thwart

thwart

Their power of shippes and gallies likewise appointed at poynt de vice, a Council was called, and the Admirall sworne in the open assemble not to yield, nor in any sort to discontinue the fight, but taking all advantage, to do his best for theyr defence, and discomfiting of the enemye. This done, and the shippes halloo forth, they bearded every man being aboard, that they hadde charge of. They cheered theyr companie, exhorting them to valour and courage, not omitting often to recounte the right cause of defence, with the enemies intrusion, with all other persuasions that might tend to their encouragement, to the great comfort of all the companie, who with one voyce yielded signes of great ioy, bidding every one to the other, to live conquerours, or die tenne thousande deaths, rather then incur the odious name of coward.

Thus shewing themselves with hope of victorie, with a ringing peale of canons, that made the ayre rattle, and the earth to shake, they sette sayle, bidding theyr friendes a short farewell, who attending theyr enemies coming, were leane them hovering at the sea for a time, till they met againe.

CHAP. XXI

Howe the two armies meeting at sea, the Millaine Duke with his power was discomfited.



These honourable Armies well appointed, both by lande and Sea, a generall expectation was made on both sides, for their meeting, wherein each one hoping for victorie, wished for to see the event of theyr fortunes (long looked for cometh at the last) and time hath

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hath brought the two fleets in sight one of the other, both
deserted; all policie was wrought for the advantage in the
fight; wherein those gallants of Genoway shewed their
best skill, keeping in despite of the Gallaine armie, the
winde, and in great brancie halled the enemies with
their loathlie murther, in such sort, that the voyes resoun-
ding the echoes of theyr noyse, which was not unanswer-
red by the Gallaine fleet, made as gallant a noise as the o-
ther, where some time was spent in triumph betwene
them, and the Gallies and shippes within shot, their pro-
fesse with great courage was discharged, and euerie man
with such weapon as he vsed to his best.

Long time and much powder was spent on both sides,
with much effusion of blood; eyther parte doubtfull of the
victorie; which the Generall of the Genowayes percei-
uing, calling his Vice-admirall, and the Admirall and Vice-
admirall of each Squadron, with a flagge of parley, they
drew neare vnto him to heare what hee hadde to saye,
who charged them vpon their allegiance, without any
more forbearing or consuming of time, to haue withall
spede euerie man as hee coulde haue advantage, and so to
make quicke and short reuall of their fortunes.

This counsell of the generall was welcome to euerie
man, who were verie gladd and ioyfull of that comman-
dement, which was that which they expected, for they atten-
ded but to see him, being desirous to followe his Deceiuers.
And thereupon forcing theyr Gallies by maine strength
of Dares aboard, with great courage and valour they gave
this onset, in which was many feates of honour and armes
achieued, where many a man of worth lost his life, o-
thers lost theyr limbes, and many spoiled and wounded
to the death. The Gallies fired, and diuers sunke, all
hazards that daye were with great perill escaped, after
many bloudie strokes and much other mischief on both

sides.

And thus ended the first daye of the battell.

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doe, the houre of the victorie befell the Dutchmen, who
 sunke their Admirall gallie, slew their chieftaine, and burned
 and sunke many of the rest, such good successe followed their
 iust cause, that fewe of their enemies escaped without great
 hurt from the fight.

The fight ended, night approaching, a retreat by the Admi-
 rall was sounded, which done, a victu was taken of the priso-
 ners, and the gentlemen and commanders of the Spillenaries,
 sent aboard the generall, for the rest order was given, that they
 should remaine aboard their severall gallies, which done, a ge-
 nerall laude was given to God for their victorie, and every one
 following the course of the Admirall, they made their way for
 Genoway, and in short time with the diligence of the Cap-
 taines, and good encouragement of the commanders of each
 gallie, they had sight of their port, and not long after recovered
 the same, where their ioyes were increased by the sight of their
 friends happie returne, as by their solenne shewes of glad-
 nes was manifest, to the great encouragement of all the adven-
 turers, and increasing of the prisoners great griefe, who made
 such sure account to tryumph in their overthrowes, and like
 Lords to command over them, rather to be subiect to their ene-
 mies. Thus their heauie sighes bewraying their sorrow, the
 generall of the flete moued with pittie of their care, being a
 man very debonaire and kinde, with a countenance full of pittie,
 his borne bayles, came vnto the cavalletes, perswading them
 to comfort themselves, and to extend this vnerpected chance
 as one of fortunes handes, whose inconstancie was not to be
 wondered at, for (quoth he) they that gaine to day, may lose to-
 morrow, the fortunes of warres are difficult, a cleare conscience
 and a iust cause armeth men with courage, & they that fight in
 right are often fortunate. Our same God hath righted, what in
 your Duke sought to wrong: he is the giver of victory, to whom
 bee all glorie. Yet gentlemen (quoth he) vni may not, neither
 clogge your hearts with too much care of your bad fortunes,
 you are fallen into the hands of a kinde and most noble enemye,
 who will well intreate you, and for mine owne part, which am
 at

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at the Gouernours commaund, I assure you, your ransomes shall be so easie as you shall like well of.

The Milleneres captiue hearing theyr kinde enemye vs such wordes of comfort; where hee might menace with death and cruell reuenge, being at his mercie, with countessie returned great thanks for his most friendly counsell and good persuasions, bowing themselves his obedient prisoners, neuer to departe, nor offer any manner of discourtesie in worde or action, untill they were lawfully licensed so to doe. Which worde the Generall accepting, each man had free libertie within the Cittie, to goe at his or theyr pleasures.

CHAP. XXIII.

How the Armies by land meeting, what happened therein.



God sent the sea power of these princes to trie first theyr fortres, so not long after theyr armies approaching, the Millaine Duke being aduertised by his espialles of their readinesse, hearing of the ill successe of his fleet, loath to putte all on hayard without some more pause and resting his people which were verie sore wearied with theyr long and hard trauaile, for which cause, as well to consult with his leaders and copartners, hee caused his Tents to bee pitcht, giuing good directions for sure watch to bee kept throughout the Campe: which done, and they having reposed themselves that night, the next day a parley by flagge was sommoned, wherein euery man was heard, both for aduise in marshalling the Armie, as for policie in surprissing the enemye, where in each mans opinion sayde, the Duke melancholike for his ill successe and losse of his fleet was so malcontent, that nothing might be said wherein he tooke pleasure: yet gaue he leaue

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to merrit out to say his minde, which humours nothing content-
ting his nobility and such as were obedient thither by his cause,
sooth that his headstrong humours should dishonour them, the
Duke of Ferrara, as one that might be most bold with him, sayd.
Cousin of Millaine, for your sake wee haue gathered bordering
neighbourhs, maintaining no iust cause of euill done, but your
intended quarrell; whet in if we reape any dishonour, wee
haue our deserts: Lette by your counsell we haue bene, as
sheepe to bee flaine, and now having hadde a little crosse, til
may you, that our people seeing your discomfort, may leaue
us heere in the midst of our enemies. It is bastardlike to
feare in such a cause, and may breede all our cuerthwile:
wherefore resolve eyther to maintaine your honour, and with
resolution finish what you determiued before our coming
from our owne homes, or on mine honour, I will drawe
my forces against to theyr owne habitation, and leaue you to
your best fortunes: say therefore your intent, for wee may
not heere long continue: the enimie being strong, and
in their owne confines; where wee are strangers, assur-
red of no fauour, but what wee can purchase with the
sword.

The Millaine Duke hearing his cousin of Ferrara so
plaine, thought best to make shewe of good content, what
souer hee thought, wherefore without longer pausing, as one
that in that extremitie desired some counsell, hee sayde.
Most honourable cousin, pardon mee, that haue not shewed
my selfe in this action as I ought, and consider the
cause I haue of discontent, which hath made mee forgette
my honourable good friendes: yet good Cousin, dishonour
me not so much, to adiudge me of cowardise; for euer my heart
hath abhorred that odious fault: but what your pleasure is
to attempt, I will performe, and thereon giuing his worde
of honour. The Duke consented to his will, who gaue
in charge the next morning euerie man with his companie
to bee marching by the breake of day, that lying neare the
enimie, they might by theyr sodaine scales see what aduantage
there

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there was to be gotten upon all handes, and shew
According to whose commaunde euery thing was
effected, and the company marched heere to the Cittie,
within halfe a league where the Genowayes campe late,
where they strongly enforced themselves, and hauing ta-
ken three or foure dayes rest, wherewith they compa-
nye was well refreshed, a Herauld was sent from the
Gouernour of Genoway, to knowe the cause of their com-
ming in armes, against the lawes of Christian Princes,
to disturbe their peace, hauing no iust cause so to doe,
commaunding him and his friendes, confederates, and fol-
lowers, either to rase theyr campe and be gone, or prouide
them to battell, and therein trie the event of eythers for-
tunes.

The Villaine Duke hauing attentively hearkened to the
Heraulds message, moued with choller at his brauing
speech, without regarde of honour or lawe of armes, hadde
like to haue beaten the Herauld, but being perswaded
by the Duke of Ferrara from so ynhonourable a fact, he sayth.
Herauld, gon tell that usurping Gouernour of my right,
that I am come to chastise his insolencie, and learne him
to knowe his duty to his leige Lords, neyther shall any
one of his rebellious companions escape the furte of my
wrath, without they come presently in submissiue man-
ner, and acknowledge their fault and great offence com-
mitted against mee, which if they refuse, by that time the
sunne hath made her recourse about the earth, I will
maffe him, and those sleeping curres his companions, in the
plaine that lyeth Calbeard from the Cittie, so God say Amen.
Therefore depart, my word shall be the safe conduct for this

The Herauld hauing his answere, without long stay hall-
meth to the campe, whereto the gouernour and his com-
plices in armes, he recounted the Dukes resolute determi-
nation, willing him to prepare against the time appointed
and commaunded.

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to meete him, wherewith the gouernour and the rest were all well pleased, committing theyr cause to God, and relying on theyr iust Title. And thus resolving to meete him at the time and place appoynted in the same, hee presently gaue order to dislodge his Camp; to drayoe more neare the place by the Duke appoynted, sending his most expert men at armes to viewe the groundes, for theyr best advantage, which with great care was so accomplished, that the sunne nor enemies could not greatly annoy them. The William Duke and his accomplies carefull of what they hadde in hande, slept no time, but with great care and regard, proceeded with theyr companies more neare the place appoynted, where all things framed by marshall discipline and good aduise of the Captaines, they expect a happie day of trvall.

While that knitteth all things, hath brought the appoynted day, in which the carefull leaders so busike employed themselves, that all things were ordered in most honourable and decent manner, where no pollicie of eyther part was omitted for the advantage: which doone, and the battalies ready to ioyne, a Herauld was sent from the Gouernour of Genoway, willing him befoze hee committed the iustice of his cause to the battaile, to call to minde the iustice of God, in deliuering his sea powers in to their handes, wishing him not so much to dishonour his noble house and followers, to hazard all to fortune. If hee woulde accept this proffer, and confesse the wrong offered his estate and commons, hee woulde remit the iourney past, and giue him free leaue to passe in quiet through his countrey, if not, and hee prevailed, hee should finde in iustice what it is to disturbe the quiet gouernment of so peaceable an estate.

This message deliuered, the Duke fretting at the Gouernours kinde and courteous motion, sware by no small power, to requite his pride, and learne him to knowe to his great greefe, what it is to mooue his
Prince

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Prince to furie, and so with a short replie to his message, sent the Herald away.

Scantly had the the Verano recovered the Pavillion of his Lorde, but a Bataille was made by the Ferrara Duke, who was the first that began the fight, and was gallantly encountered with the Duke of Naples, who met him hand to hand, each knowing other by theyr colours. Betwene those Princes began a fierce and dreadfull fight, who singling themselves, both hoping of honour, so applyed theyr forces one against the other, that it was doubtfull whether should have the glorie of the day. Both of them by their prowlles giving courage to their followers, betwene whome many hardie scapes of armes were atchieued, the battell on both sides being very doubtfull. In this conflict, the two Dukes like Lyons, beare themselves, untill the Ferrara Duke, with long continuance of the fight, fell from his horse, who was presently rescued by a Band of his owne companie, that in the parting, had like to have slaine the Duke of Naples, if the Duke his enemy had not bene more honourably minded, that rescued from danger by his freendes, he left the field that time. Night growing on them, a retreat was sounded on eyther part, and every man withdrew them to theyr Tents: in which battell, was taken many Prisoners, on eyther part, which by compromise of the Governours of both parts, was redelivered. Thus for a time we leave them to their repose, and hopes of theyr good successe, to tell you of the Princesse Vallia.

K 3

CAAP.

How the two childre of the lady Vallia was solemnly christened, with other adventures.



The most renowned and noble minded Emperour, desiring to honour the Christning of the two children, had invited all the nobilitie and Princes neere bordering on his confines, to be witnesses of that solemnitie, appointing for that time, great triumphes to be performed: and for that purpose, caused challenges to be set up, against all comers, to be maintained by his champions, the winners to have rich rewards.

The day of solemnitie being come, many Princes and Noble personages assembled themselves to the Triumph, the Emperour in person, being Godfather to both the sonnes of the Knight of the holy Crosse: unto whom, many rich presents were given, by sundry Princes, that honoured and loved their father.

At these bankets, among many others which partook of so rare novelties, Alinda, busying her self to heare, & overheare strange things, heard two noble gentlemen discourse of the state of Genowaye, recounting at large, the honorable demeanour of the Governour thereof, & his successe, in their sea adventures, with each particu'ar chance, happening in these warres, which waited of Alinda, that needed no orator to tell her tale, her tongue carrying a heauie waight, untill shee had opportunitie to reueale the same unto her Ladie: which shee sought, yet could not obtaine it, untill late in the evening, when euerye Guest had withdrawne themselves to rest: when having time fit to her desire, shee beganne first unpleasant motions to feele the humour of her Ladye, whether pleasantly

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as melancholie disposed, and finding her pleasant humour, shee
saide. Madam, since the heauen tydings from Genoway, I
haue not seene one pleasant motion please you, lette mee your
olde seruant, inter at this fauour at your handes, to saye: what
you coulde well frame your feeble and unable handes to
doe, in defence of your alone rightfull inheritance of Geno-
way.

Alinda (quoth the Princesse) thy fond prattle will neuer bee
left, what mouesth these suddaine motions; and recounting
Genoway, say, what occasions are offered in those parts, I
pray thee say.

Madame (quoth Alinda) your Highship alwaies is plea-
sed to mistake me, and my simple meaning; what I intende
herein, is nothing, you knowe I am none of those that seeke
common: wealths benefit, but say good Madam, that I were,
as I am neuer like to bee, the rightfull heire to the Dukedome
of Millaine, and should by violence come to disurpe your right
in your Dukedome by force, what ought you doe for defence of
your selfe and your people? Alinda (quoth the Princesse) seeing
thou sayest thy talke begunne is in least, I will as heartely an-
swere thy demands.

Suppose Alinda to be my enemye, and in Armes in
my Countrey, spoiling my commons, and rimating my
Countrey, thou mightest well accuse mee of cowardise, yet
in Armes I should not meete thee, reuenging my iust cause
on my enemye: for thus, and in this manner, would I chastise
the Millaine Duke; laying good stroakes on the backe of her
mayden, with a cudgell, which shee easily found. Which
chastisement that she coulde well demean her selfe turned in this
maner. Madam, if to be Duke of Millaine, be so painefull, and
that to a blurper, there belong such punishment, lette them bee
Dukes that list, Alinda will be her selfe as long as she can. The
good Duke of Millaine answered the Princesse, I am verie
sorye that I shoulde so suddaulye trouble your grace: but
vpon some conditions, I will make your Highship recom-
pence.

Madame

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Madame quoth Alynda, promotion I feele is heauie, the paines of Duke is impainted I feare me in blacke and blew on my shoulders. But since they be badges of your Ladships colours, and your gift, in hope of better I must accept these. But may it please you to let me know your conditions, that liking thereof, I may deserue your reward. I marie Alinda (quoth the Princesse, but first sweare vnto me to answer iustly my demands, and then aske thy reward.

Alynda hearing the Princesse so pleasant, was loath to hinder her beguine mythy: but feeding her vaine, of put her from those dampes, said.

Madame, since it is your Ladships pleasure to bring mee from a zealous prophesier, bling no oath, but yea, yea, and nay nay, cock and pye, & such like, to rend those creatures that God hath made, say by what you will haue me sweare, and I will performe it.

How now Alinda (quoth the Princesse) where blotest the kinde nob: the Swone I dare gage my life is in some merrie corner, that hath brought thee to this conceited pleasures: but leaving all, tell me as thou tenderest my loue: What moued thee to name the Duke of Millaine: my minde presageth some vnerpected chance hath happened: my people by his meanes if they haue, and thou therewith acquainted, I sweare by that loue I beare my Lord Edward, neuer to forgive it thee, vntill thou reueale thy meaning therein, and tel me the truth of what thou hast heard.

The maiden hearing her self promise so contrarie, loath to offend her, which she honoured aboue all the creatures on the earth, thus said. Madame, I haue often heard it amongst the learned, obserued for a principle, not to ieast with superiours, dreading the mistaking of any simple meaning, whereof I might haue taken haede, but seeing my tongue hath bene so long hanged to vtter the hearts secrets, pardon what I haue to say, and I will hide nothing to satillie your desire. When proceede (quoth the Princesse) and whatsoever thou sayest, I freely forgive it thee.

Alinda

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Alynda, whom all hearts might not pardon from
long her name, I knowe: This day my gracious Lord, the
banquet being now furnished, with many an honourable
Guest, two gallaunt youtnes whose names I knowe not,
questioning one with the other, of the state of Genowaye,
and of the Province thereof. I coming lately from those
confinnes, a tale of ioye, and much lamentations hee deliue-
red, which wyng many teares from my heart, at hea-
ring thereof, it chaunced manye exceeding loves to possesse
me: I yet disposed to trouble me (quoth the Princesse) I came
off I saye these fond delusions, and saye how both ioye and
care at one entir time assayed mee.

Madame (quoth Alynda) when he deliuered the p-
rize of the Duke of the Duke, I sawe him by my chance
to obtaine power in the Duke's Court, by winning the re-
gent to his will, who told him when he should not, he re-
sented a mightie power by sea, and another by land, and
forming many other Princes here, and there, to serve
his will. I sawe many discomfited by your Captaines,
and they obtaining a most honourable honour, the Duke
himselfe to take your confines, and hath fought a most ho-
nourable battell, each side doing theyr deuytye, in such sort,
that it was doubtfull whether hadde the best, and thus they
left them: and this hath byde both my care and great
sore.

The Princes who tendered her native Countrey as her
owne life, premeditating on her maidens speech, and recom-
fing each severall accident, many times wished her Lord pre-
sent to challenge these blamers: bowing to reuenge those wrongs
son Millaine, and all partakers: yet this in her womanly
furie, reasonable meanes shee had none to make, without ac-
quainting the Emperour therewith, which shee was verie
loath to do: yet beating her Princes, to finde out some fault,
to behold the manner of their doings, shee was euer crossed
by some other contrarie accident, which made her solitarie
to abandon the companye of all people, onely her trustie ser-

gentle creature, who seeing her beautie, lamented her rash-
ness in revealing those secrets, which yet renewed her con-
solation.

CHAP. XXV

Howe the honourable Princesse Vallia, performing her
Church duties, after her trauaile, went disguised from
Rome.



The Princesse which sought many means
to attaine her desire, longing more deepe-
ly to see the estate of her commons, then
for any worldly benefite, and to geue
them comfort in their distresse. The
time of her Churcheing being now
finished, she bethought her selfe of
one secret intent, which she would affi-
rely put in practise, if Alynda would therunto give her
consent, devising many waies how to acquaint the maiden
with her purpose, yet fearing to discover the simple in-
tent of her former purpose, who knowing her Alynda to be
of a most sharpe and ready witte, shee first by many
circumstances bounde her to her secrets, which done shee
said.

Alynda, in many extreames, thou hast bene my faithfull
councellour, and confessor of my secretes, from whome the
deepest thoughts of my heart hath neuer bene hidde, and
having founde thy loyaltie, I doubt not the like at this time,
which I will requite to thy content: to holde thee longer
from what thou expectest to knowe, I haue since I hearde
thee discourse the distresse of my poore subjects, vowed to
O God my Redemer to see them, and to lend them all such
helps

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helpe as my power will stretch unto, on lyfe furthering my
intent hereto; aduise mee what secret course to take, in
which thou shalt highly please mee: But as thou lo-
uest mee, stande not vppon any denials, or persuasions
to withdraue mee from this determination; for whatso-
uer becom of mee, I will execute what I haue here inten-
ded.

II. Alynda which sawe her earnestnesse to perforce her
will herein: he sought her of pardon, her wittes being so
simple, to giue readie aduise in a case so full of daunger.
But Madame (quoth shee) that you shall knowe, my
loue is as firme as ever it was, denie you the heare, and I wil
doe my best to enact it, keeping your secrets if I see
for it.

Enough, my owne sister Alynda, I take thy worde,
and on the faith I charge thee presently to provide mee some
trustie frende to accompany mee in, which can be trusted in
mans attyre, armed like a Knight of the Emperours, with
travails in my company: knowing nothing what I
am. Wherefore saye to him, whome thou shalt appoint
for my guide: I am the Brother, that for some occasions of
thy Ladies, is bounde for those parts of Italye, and on the
worde, assure him of a good rewarde for his paynt, to his
very good liking. But haste thee, for I can enioye no
quiet content, untill I haue honourably performed my
will.

Madame (quoth Alynda) this shal I doe as content
as heretofore. But say good Madame, how shall I amende
your absence when the Emperour shal enquire for you? For
this my Alynda, thou shalt giue it out amongst the Ladies
of the Court, as well as amongst mine owne attendants,
that I haue made a solmne vowe, to fast certaine dayes, in
which time, performing my other penance for my sinnes past,
I will not bee seene or spoken unto of any but your selfe: this
thou I doubt not, but youe suffice.

Excellent,

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Excellent my good Madie, (quoth Alinda) I see not a willing horse nor a good horse: God sende your Ladshippe well to prosper in your journey: for I neuer saw your bolts so shapred before.

But now for horses, where shall you ride? My selfe, Alinda shall be my credit: the best horse shall be engaged to the maister of the Emperours Horse, for two such as shall be most excellent: if not mine owne assurance shall serue with him: to doe the same adopted: whether any pleasure.

Believe me Madame, I like your plat welly and doubt not, but that shal be as well performed it. I have be thought mee of a proper Gentleman, a lover of mine owne, in such he is: whome I will conure, of that loue he hath so often profest, to beate my Brother rumpant, and to provide him some good guide for his conduct: in meantime, I will provide your furniture, which shall all be bought to your owne person.

What sayest thou Alinda: wilt thou vaine me in buying for mee those needfull things? No Madame (quoth she) you mistake me, I am that to my charge, and remember you no more with these words.

The plat beinge labored for the printed to the Prince, Alinda so applyeth her selfe in purchasing each needfull thing, that manye dayes were that spent: before each necessitie was brought into the Princes lodging, and exquisitely fitted her, girds and other comforts, to her owne verie good liking. Which beinge done, and the daye appointed to: they departed.

Alinda callinge her friends before the Princesse, said, Most gracious Madie, lette your humble servant intreat your Ladship to graciously receive a kinde of mine, with your fauourable countenance. And seeinge I have made choise of him amongst all the gallants of this royal Court, I beseech you witnesse with mee, what trust I repose in him, that commit mine owne and onely brother to his guiding, in a journey

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journey for my good, which hee undertaketh, though hee is, and not able to endure such harde travails, without some good guide: and sicknesse, incident to all men, may appeale him: of which (my good Hortelious, for so was he named) take thou especiall regard, for that what thou doest to him, is done to my selfe, and as great shall thy thanks be in doing him pleasure. Tomorrow by that time the morning shall give light at the gate, behinde these lodgings he shall attend you, where faile not to meete him, and me: and so for this time farewell.

This kinde lover which had no thought what service he undertooke, was careful of his charge, loath to be accounted negligent at this first entertainment, slept not until he had all things in good sort ready. The Princesse minding her journey, was all night, on the better part, in arming and providing her selfe, attending the coming of her trullie guard, who failed not his heare appointed, where the Princesse accompanied with her Alynda, with him. After making small stay, taking their leave, depart each of other, were leaved them to their journey, and Alynda to her devils thoughts, how to beguile the Emperour in her Ladies absence, as hereafter you shall heare.

CHAP. XXXIIII

Howe the Emperour with great regarde of the infants good fortunes, caused a sign of Astro to calculate their natiuities.



The Emperour whose felicitie was in those noble children, of whom hee had more care, then of an ordinarie friend, desirous to knowe what in their birthes was predestinate unto them, sought many wayes to attaine unto his desire, and acquainted some of his friends with his intent: After long care taking to attaine his desire, had intelligence of a conseruent

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which had his being on Alpes leading from Rome to Naples, whose Art was matchlesse in the Art Mathematicke. Vnto this hermet he sent his trustie counsellor Anthonie Bulcatho, entreating him, (whom he might commaunde) to satisfie his pleasure herein sending, by him, the houre, day, and moneth, truly set downe of their natiuities.

Such haste made this noble man, that hee came vnto the Cell of the Hermet, whom hee kindly intreated to satisfie the Emperours pleasure herein, who loath to be drawne from his heavenly motions, could not a long time be perswaded to it. In the ende, so many were the entreaties, and importunate suites of the noble Messenger, that he granted his good will, promising by a certaine time to fulfill the Emperours suite, and by writing to satisfie him.

Anthonie hauing what he desired, returned the Emperour his answer, who spending the time in many thoughts of his desires, took no rest untill he heard what the Hermet said. As time spendeth, so time brought the limited time to ende, of which the Emperour was carefull, when calling his Anthonie, he caused him to speede vnto the Hermet, where making no stay, posted about his businesse, and in happie time arrived at his Cell: where entring conference with the aged father, touching his questions, he receyued no wordes at all, wherein he might take any occasion of iudgement. But after some repast taken, he sayd,

Friendly Anthonie, whose paines hath bene such, to see my homely Cell, thanks for your paines, to my gracious Prince heartily commend me, and vnto him deliver these fewe lines, which shall import that small knowledge I can giue.

The noble man hauing receiued his message, would not make more inquite of ought, but taking his friendly farewell, hasteneth vnto the Court, of whose coming the Emperour was gladd, who calling him into his Closet, enquired the newes he had. At which drawing his packet, signed with the Hermet's signet, he deliued the same vnto his Secretary, who reading the scales, read the contents thereof following.

Knights of the holy Grone.

The Nobles borne within the stately Court,
Mongst Princes great, shall beare a kingly port.
The latter borne, a straunger hence shall steale,
By whom great good shall chance thy comon weale.
In armes with many matchlesse Princes he shal fight,
Yet neuer be soylde by anie humane wight.
Gods glorious name by power he shall aduaunce,
And shall be knowne at length by happie chaunce.
Who gaue him life, of him shall life receiue,
Where he tooke life, there shall he life becaue.
In trauaile shall this worthe champion bide,
Vntill this lucklesse fortune to him shall beride.
Marrie he shall, with a most princelie wife,
And end his daies in religion: kinda of life.
The Elder brother like a Lion force,
The Pagans proude hie prowes shall menace.
The flying birds his parents shall bewray,
And raging beaſte, shall vnto him obay.
Most strange euents by him performde shall be,
Myrrour of knight hood, and of chualtrie.
For ouer East to west, their honours shall be spred,
And Romans through his might shall be magnified.

These darke and close couched lines, when the Emperour
had read, and ouer-read many times, and could not conceiue
the meaning therof, he was more troubled in spirit then before.
But when hee was warned, that the yonger should be borne
from him by a stranger, he took order that their nurces should
bee in one of the chiefeſt foxtresses about the Citie, where
hee vsually visited them: in whome hee tooke more delight,
then in anie thing, especiallie in Constantine the yonger,
which bare his name, of whome his feare was most. The el-
der whom had to name Nartelion, hee was not so watchfull
of, yet had he a fatherly care of both. In this great regard, and
heedful care, these princes were seuen yeres within the foxtresse

of the Cittle nourished. What after happened them, the W
hoie shall shew you as it remembreth.

CHAP. XXVI

Howe the Princesse Vallia arrived at Genoway, and what
happened her.



Ding and wearie travaille hath brought
the Ladie in sight of Genoway. Be-
fore she could recover the Cittle, she was
entountred by the Ambuscadoes of the
Milhaine Duke, who took her prisoner,
and brought her to the Dukes Pavil-
lion. The Duke seeing so fayre and
beautiful a face, questioned her (for so we
must terme her now) of whence she was, and what af-
fayres ledde him thither, whether she came as a friend or an
enemie. Vallia, whose sence are not so quick of readie answeres,
seeing her selfe in the handes of him that would not willingly
part with her, if he had knowledge of her, dissembling (as well
she could) what she was, sayd: Noble Prince, the desire I have
to make triall of my manhood, hath brought me to thee, for that
I have heard thy honours spoken of amongst many. A Gentle-
man I am, desirous to see the manner of warre: and if thou
purchase it, the price of my service shall be employed for thee.
The Duke which noted her beautiful face, her kinde speech,
and affable countenance, held her for no lesse then a Gentle-
man. And without vling any circumstances, gave her entertainme-
nt appointing her a place nere his owne person: which kinde-
ness she verie gratefull accepted, returning many thanks for his
honorable acceptance. Not long had our yong warrior remained in the campe,
whom in her attire we name Philipo; but a scallie was made
by the Citizens, whose vittalles waring scant, would gladly
take all possible meanes to be quit of their enemies;

The

The larum in the campe given, all armed and in aray, Philipo was not last, but mounted, in very comely and brave manner demeaned his selfe, venturing so farre in pursute of the enemye to the gates, that there was with her guide taken prisoner, which the Millaine Duke seeing, commending the forwardnesse of his new entertained souldiour, sought to rescue him. But his ayde came too late. So sooner was the Noble brought into the Citie, but carrying the shew of a Captaine, she had good entertainment, and well intreated. That night the Governour with his commanders being pleasantly delighted at supper, and euery man recounting what seruice they had seene and done that day, the captaine whose prisoner she was, acquainted the Governour what a prize he had that day gotten, leaving nothing vntremembered that might honour her, to whom he made reckoning would purchase him those of crownes.

The Governour on this report of the Captaine, was verie desirous to see this prisoner, yet for that night made little reckoning of it, in the morning early, his mind devising of his night's resolution, accompanied with his best friends, took his occasion to walke by the house of signior Vincencio, where she remained, with whom he questioned of sundrie occasions. After some frivulous speech, he enquired for the prisoner, who was presently brought before him, to whom he saluted verie kindly, requiring him to say of what countrey he was, and what name and parentage. Sir quoth Philipo, for so lette her be remembered, what you are I know not, neither desire I to know, but haue heard that lawes of armes allow not euery man to examine, especially a gentleman. Therefore pardon me, for without the governour or his speciall authoritie, I will not acquaint my with my estate, and so good sir quoth the rest satisfied. Sir quoth the governour, your peremptorie speech sheweth some great mind, which I pray God prove so happie for your hostes sake. If then I can entreate the governour to come or send for you, will you vouchsafe to acquaint him with what I haue required? I pray you sir (quoth Philipo) you conserue my vnde right, for which I am beholding vnto you. You are verie pleasant

which (quoth the Governour) which I wold continue, I wold gladly crave this favour, that I might on mine owne authoritie demaund whether you knowe the governour, which you wold see. Sir answered Philipo, the honourable gentleman yet I neuer saw, but in regard of his vertues and honourable commendations, I both loue and honour him.

Thanks (quoth the Governour) for your good opinion and report of him which you hold an enemy, but happily may prove otherwise, for which, if any haue any thing to say, either in secret or otherwise, speake as a friend, I am the man, vnworthis though I be of so honorable a place, wherefore if thou hadst ought to speake, say boldly thy minde, for by the honour of that seate which I do now possesse, I will freely heare thee, and pardon whatsoeuer.

Philipo which saw how harshly she had demeaned her selfe, with a blushing countenance which might wel haue betrayed what she was, humbly besought him of pardon for her vnwilling offence, protesting by the honour of a souldiour, she had no knowledge of him, which the honourable governour believing and forgiving, she sayde. Noble minded Governour, hearing of the wrongs offered you and your people, I craved pardon and leave of my soueraigne the Emperour, to be partaker of your service, as well to right your injuries offered you, as for the loue and dutie I owe this countrey where I had my being first, and iourneying hither, intending what I say, was suddenly surprised by the Ambassadors of the Spillaine Duke, who taking me at advantage, there was small resistance, but yielding me their prisoner, had entertainment of the Duke, who vsed mee most kindly, yet not content with his favour, being enemie to your state, and heere of my late deceased Lord Duke Phillip, in the last service I willingly aduentured my selfe in that manner to come vnto you, and in signe of my loyalty and faith, though I be young and a stranger, whose credite yet is not requisite you should trust too farre in a time so dangerous, yet as I am a Gentleman (which title with my life I will for ever maintaine) bee ruled by mee, and

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and doubt not the suddaine recovery of your bloudy wounds. The Governour hearing to her long discourse, noted her modest countenance and courage in deliuering the same, yet holding it fittedome to haue better knowledge of any man, whom he should trust in a cause of such importance, thanked him for his proffer, craving respect for his resolution therein. And so after some other courteous speeches, giving his leave to his host for his libertie, hee invited him to his lodging, where hee was feasted with great welcome, the governour delighting much in his companie and pleasant parley, which in their secret discourses, was for matters of state, touching the weale of her people, though the governours least suspect was of her, whose right hee governed. As her delight, being now in place of her most chiefe delight, too leane her a time.

CHAP. XXVII.

How Alinda taking care to keepe secret her Ladies absence, demeaned her selfe.



Lynda the trust of her Ladie, and the faithfull secret keeper of her mistresse, after shee hadde carefully provided all things, and sene her hoised to her iourney, beganne now to deuise in what a labyrinth of danger shee had wrought her selfe, if ought should betide her Ladie, but well to auoyde her owne danger, and to free her Ladie of suspect, her subtile pate was not free from carefull studie, which way shee might best keepe her secrets close, imagining sometime one way, sometime another: at length a moze better presents it selfe to her memorie.

A pleasant Historie of the

which standing in my estate, holding it would not to be pro-
uiderd if occasion should serue, she gaue it out, that her Ladie
holding a long fall and secret, would not be leane or spoken to
of her. Alynda

Whis plotte working effectually, Alinda orderly as she was
accustomed, went to visite the children from whence she retu-
ring, she puruaid with her stone hand her diet, as for her La-
dies seruice, and then attyning her selfe in her Ladies attyre,
would shew her selfe. In this manner continued shee without
suspect of her Ladies absence, until the Emperour pittying the
Lady, doubting lest her long solitarinesse should moue her to
melancholy, and thereby some dangerous sicknesse might en-
sue, when hee hadde often solicited her by her seruant Alinda
for the same, and receiued such answers by her as hee liked
not, moued with a kinde desire to see her, hee betoken that if
he left not her chamber by a time limitted, passing the
borders of honour, he would violently breake the doores vppon
her.

This wind of furie made Alyndas heart cold, fearing her
Mistresses honour should not by absence bee questioned of,
and her selfe without confession of her being where
shee might not bee knowne, in danger of the Emperours
displeasure, and losse of credite and life: to anoyde all which,
many wayes shee deuised, yet none safe inough, as shee
thought: but as women haue alwayes some thift, if it were
to deceiue the Duell, so Alynda deuised this meane, viz
to her Ladies confessor. In a morning earlie shee went
where after her, many pretie questions and answers pas-
sed betweene them, Alynda to trye the constancie of
this holy father, charged him on his holy orders, and by
the reuerent zeale hee bore to religion, to say what hee
would doo for her Ladie, in maintaining her honour and re-
putation.

The frier who thought on no such matter as the subtile
Alinda, willing to make a shewe of zeale and dutie, prote-
sted by all holy vowes, that whatsoeuer rested within his
power,

Knight of the holy lance

power, he would gladly effect for her husband, if the loss of
 life and credit depended thereon: His grace brought this
 for a lynces purpose, which she thus answered: I should
 fyer, well have you said, in loving your selfe the favourit of a
 noble & L. and whose reputation and honour dependeth on your
 secrecie: which seeing your holie bowles ought to be kept
 in regard, both with God, and the world, I will reveale
 a matter most rare and straunge unto you, and crave your
 counsaile in the same. I am a woman of a most famous
 and noble name (help father) bearing of the famous countesse the
 Governour and state of Genoway: whose right other day
 some is inspired with courage sprung from the loynes of a
 noble souldiour, and possessing the spirit of her lord's word, the
 knight of the holy Crosse, determining to trie her fortune in these
 warres, bound me by oath to her secreete intent, never to let
 the face of death, or any other punishment, to reveal her will,
 and noble determination therein: which done, and my duties
 past, she intreated me to provide horse and armour for her with
 a guide. And so decking herselfe in the attire of a man, and
 accompanied with a Gentleman of the Court, who know-
 ing her but for my brother, are gone for Genoway: whose
 whose departure, my care being great to keepe her credite,
 have given it out, as well to the Emperour, as to all other,
 that my Ladie hath made a holy vowe, and observeth a fast
 for certaine weekes, in which time she will have no confe-
 rente, or be seen of any, but my selfe: But the Emperour
 dreading the losse of her solitarinesse, some melancholike in-
 firmitie, shoulde ensue, hath sworn, if shee come not a-
 broad in a certaine time, to drave her perforce into his
 companie.

To salve all which, let me intreat you, by that promise you
 have made, to morrow morning by that houre the Emperour
 doth usually walke about his privie garden, to come unto the
 Court, where I wil attend you, and be your guide to her cham-
 ber, where my selfe disguised in my Ladies apparell, will with
 you feigning great conference, shewe us at the window

I have been thinking of you very much lately, and
 wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are
 well and happy. I have been very busy lately,
 but I have managed to find some time to write
 to you. I have been thinking of you very much
 lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I
 hope you are well and happy. I have been very
 busy lately, but I have managed to find some
 time to write to you. I have been thinking of
 you very much lately, and wondering how you
 are getting on. I hope you are well and happy.

CHAP. XXVIII.

Howe the feigned Philipo by good government and behav-
niour, obtained the good wil of the Gouverneur, and what
chanced her in the fight.



Hilipo having a care of finishing her intended businesse, sought by all meanes to gaine the good will of the Governour : so that leaving no occasion which was offered, he alwayes tooke opportunity to move the Governour, by what he could tell to trie the event of their fortunes. But the Governour having lost manie

Knights of the holy Grail.

which was a noble, appearing to him as if it were his friend, be-
trayed the time in such manner, that Philip's heart was
their longing, and respecting her promise with a kind of
long opportunity, having the Governor at convenient time
and place to speak, thus he said, and shortly told him
the noble Governor at night without sleep of business,
promising your displeasure, to be my pleasure, I would then
make offer of my simple service to your honour, and your
people's great good. The Governor when he heard this
would to like him, would him to say what he would desire, he
would be heard him, and further his honour would be his
power. Thanks, (noble Gentleman, quoth Philip,) I thank
you to have me this favour, I will and note the great
distress of your people, and pity their state, to have them
this captivity, and freedom from their enemies, I will
venture my body in single combat, to see my fortune with
the best men at arms in that famous camp, if you care
on the goodness of your first quarrel, and have your right
as it is to this, you, or that would endure to be not con-
fess, by battell to enter the quarrel in this case, and the leader
to fight by policy, what effect God will send forth, the
actions of men will be as it shall be, and as it shall be.

The Governor smiling at the resolution of Philip, who
in such face argued his young years, and made him to see
marshall discipline, would not refuse his resolution, and
thanking him for his friendly offer, he would be his part, the
experience of war would be enough to him, and his
courageous amongst them, in that his resolution, and his
strength, was insufficient to conquer the two, and many
eyes, and their policy would be presented. The Governor
(quoth he,) that I may not have any more advantage to you,
whose care and offer is such, to see God, I will be his
device, and as I like, we will accept of the result, and
dying her, all success in her suit, be thought the Governor
of pardon, and of his honour, he would be to give him
his suit, and his honour, and his honour, and his honour.

The Countess seeing his willingness, and what he had
 he had at his death, and despairing of his good hap, hoping in
 God, which by the power of David, discomfited a most huge
 army, granted his request. Whose words she never uttered,
 but hee might perceiue her hearts content by her cheerefull
 countenance. After a small stay, little needing long delibera-
 tion, she sayd: I am (my good Lord) that during the time I
 remained in field with the Duke, hauing an intent to do you
 and yours what good I best could, I gaue my selfe to search
 the secrets of his campe, noting his whole order and manner in
 euery thing, watching by night to see their observation, and
 in the day to know their motions. In which times, I
 came how carelesly they perceiued themselves, thinking at
 some times your honour were acquainted with my thoughts:
 so with a small power might they haue bene surprised. In hope
 of which (good my Lord) you haue beate to chase unto me, those
 whole peeres require honour by their deserts, I such Gentle-
 man as I can intreate to accompany me, my selfe will make
 the attempt, entering first the campe, like a fagotier, hauing
 stolen from the Gate, pretending honorable lone to the Duke,
 whom I will with my sword take to beate, as until hee
 sleepe oppresse him, he shall neuer be wearie to haue me
 done, and surer one to the death of the sleeper, blinding them
 late, I will with his signet, command the Officers of the
 watch to giue me the word, pretending the Dukes meaning
 to visit some watch secretly that night. These things falling
 so out by the means a fagotier, I will give notice to my
 company, whom I will meet, and into them will direct the way
 which by small companies shall passe the gates of garde, un-
 till we come to the Dukes chamber, longing to be halting
 some strength, and resolution my selfe will undertake to bring the
 Duke prisoner, and deliver him (by your help, and your
 assistance) quite entruied to Iacob his son, and I am thus bound
 to Philips to use up of the Countess, whose words were
 spoken, which God grant, to the Duke's (myselfe named
 Gentleman) I commend this seruice, and will my selfe repo-
 sing

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King our very loyallie: be ready at giving the signe, with five hundred of my trustiest friends to ayde thee, the honours whereof, shall be Philippos, if we prevaille, then proceed when thou shalt best please.

Philippo, having his desire, and the gouvenerns good consent, attired like a common souldiour, at setting the watch, slied the Cittie, commending the successs of his service to G D D: for hee was not gone from the Cittie, but taken by the enemies C. spayles, he craved access to the Duke, unto whom after they had rifeled him, they brought him. So sower came hee to the presence of the Duke, but prostrating himselfe at his feete, hee sayth. Most noble Lord, and my dread soueraigne, pardon my humble servant, who by my overboldnesse, desirous to gaine your gracious love, so farre adventured in pursuit of the enemies: What being past rescue, and the enemies number lesse, my strength fayling mee, with the losse of much blood issuing from my woundes, I was in haplesse time, taken Prisoner, where I have there ever since remained, untill this time: I then slaying my keeper, taking his apparell and furniture, I thus escaped theyr surze, who for my harsh speeches, used in defending your noble reputation, was doomed to bee shot to death by the souldiours. The Duke glad to see his safe returne with life, for whome he had great care, giving him heartie thanks for his good love, and dangerous aduenturing for him, and in his service, gave him a chayne of golde from his necke: commanding his Maister of the wardrop, to sute him presently in a rich sute which hee appointed: which done, seating him by his side, accompanied with the cheefest of his men at Armes, and nobilitie, hee discoursed unto him much matter to theyr lyking: touching the miserie of the towne, assuring them on his life, before marriage daies were ended, the commons in despite of the Gouverno: wold yelde themselves, if in time he and his accomplices sought not his highnesse favour. With these pleasing speeches, & often caroling betwene the, at finishing of each storie, the night was well spent, Philippo for his welcome, was lodged on a pallet

in the Dukes Tent: which done, and every man at his quiet, the Court of garde about the Tent, being halfe a sleep, as one that regarded his honour with the gouernour, seeing all sound, serched the Dukes pocket, where finding the signet, he issued out the Tent, commaunding the Captaine of his guard to send him the word, so: that disguised, hee would walke that night about the Campe.

The Captaine seeing the Dukes signet, gave him the word, which obtained, about his other businesse he goeth, effecting all things as he wished. The Duke being fast, thrusting out his torche at the Tent doze, as though the Duke intended to visit the Ferrara Duke, which lay not farre off, he fained speache with the garde, untill he thought the Gouernours espyalls had scene the signe: When making no longer stay, with a Holbart on his neck, taking his way towards the Citie, he past with the word without any molesting. The Gouernour which had hope in his champion, slept not his time, but with his horse, and many other a foote, attended the coming of Philipppo, to direct them, which made all possible haste, and in good time to all their comforts, met the Gouernour: Unto whom he briefly deliuered what was done, beseeching him to let his footemen passe, by small companies, to a place by him assigned, whither he would conduct them, and at the allarme giuen, to make halt with his horsemen to their rescue. The Gouernour hauing good hope of successe, commending his pollicie and resolution, appointed his men by him to be led, straightly charging them to be gouerned by him, who giuing them the worde, marched on to a side of a small hill, close on the backe side: the Dukes tent where they stayed, untill they: guide Philipppo had appointed them what to do.

Philipppo, applying his businesse, bringing the companie close to the Tent, hauing the Duke fast bound, wapped him in his night gowne, accompanied with two or three good fellows more of his crewe, with they: weapons drawne, drew him from his naked bed: with which awaking, and perceiving them strangers which were about him, he would haue cryed out

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out for helpe, which Philippo perceiving, thrust his gloves into his mouth, swearing by all holinesse, that if he spake any word, he should presently have his passport, to hell, which was the habitation of such usurpers: Wherefore willed him, as hee tendered his life, to bee silent, and his bodye should have no harme, which to doo, hee was enforced: Taking what they woulde with patience, having him within theyr power, they cutte the coardes of the Tent, and pulled him out underneath, bestowing him at theyr owne pleasures: that done, leaving him in safe keeping, they gave the allarome, killing and slaying without merce. To whose ayde, came the watchfull Gouvernour, who with his power, did such feates of Armes, that the whole Armie was discomfited, some fledde, but most slaine. The Dukes with the principall were taken prisoners, with many others, which were delivred presently. But the Duke with his complices, hee sent unto the Cittie, to take better assurance of his loyaltie.

Thus the pollicie of Philippo prevailling, and those wordes of theyr riches and promise, which they hoped to have made theyr Captives, the Gouvernour sent unto the Towne, the happie successe of theyr services, marching himselfe by easie paces, doing Philippo all the honour hee coulde. Who being mounted on a beautifull Henet of Spaine, led the two Dukes his prisoners.

The happie tydings of this honourable victorie suddainly spread throughout the Cittie: great was the triumphing they made, where no solemnitie was left there effected for honour of the same, every one lauding the pollicie of Philippo, and doing him all the honour that might bee devised.

To the exceeding greeke and heartes discontent of the Dukes, who blaming theyr light credence of a straunger, whome they never sawe before in thier liues, woulde on his wordes, offered of purpose to serue his owne turne, admitte him to such fauour and trust: but after warnings comes too late. They are now to bee used at the

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pleasure of the Governour, unto whom Philippo became an earnest suitor, for they courtous entertainment, and honorable usage.

The Governour, whose honour was increased by the industry of Philippo, embracing him in his Armes, committed the whole estate of those Princes and Pables, unto his direction: by whom he solemnely vowed to be governed, for which, as one that could demean himselfe to all estates like himselfe, he returned many heartie thanks, and accepted his kind proffer.

CHAP. XXIX.

How Philippo gave the sentence on the vsurping dukes, and the honour done at his departure.



Philippo, praying God for his prosperous successe, reioyseth nowe to bee with her Alinda, to whom shee greatly feared might encur some danger, by her long absence: to avoide which, shee besought the governour of licence to depart: pretending businesses of great importance. To whose sute, although willingly he would haue condescended, yet with earnest intreaties and loue hee bare him, he besought him to stave with him, promising on the fayth and honour of a Gentleman, as himselfe, hee shoulde participate in all liuing Land and goods, which hee had, or should ever haue. For which Philippo rendered many heartie thanks, but might not bee intreated: for which the gouernour, as well as many other his followers, and freendes, were heartily sorie, surceasing they bootlesse sutes, least they importunitie might breed offence, yet they besought him, to accept the ransome of the prisoners which were to be disposed by him.

Then Philippo set the honorable minds of those his friends, which

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which hee had good cause to love, for maintaining his right, and euerie way discharging the honourable parte of a trustie subiect, loath that so great fauours should go unrecompensed, hee first on their allegiance to the rightfull heire of the Dukedome, charged them streightly to fulfill what he should giue in charge, being no disparagement to their honours and estate, to which they willingly agreed, confirming by oath what he had set downe, and then saide. In performance of the words you haue giuen, this shall you do, befoze the moneth is fully expired, you shall in person repaire vnto Rome, where before the imperiall maiestie of my soueraigne Lord the Emperour, you shall present these Dukes your prisoners, where I will recount your honourable deserts, and deserued commendations, that your Princesse Vallia may reward your honourable seruice. Till when, honourable Governour, weare this ring, by which you shall finde me, if you forget the name of Philippo. Which said, and the ring deliuered, the gouernour wondering at the grantie and noble minde of the resolute gentleman, overcome with his noble proffer, could not tell what way to recompence the least of his deserts, but rendering him many thanks, besought him in the most humble manner, to acknowledge their duties to their soueraigne Ladie Vallia, whose seruants theee bowed them in all loyaltie. These conditions agreed vppon, and euerie thing with consent finished, the time appointed for Philippos departure, a band of souldiours were appointed for his conuay to Rome, the captaine of which companie, hauing great charge for his honourable vsage, vnto whom ten thousand crownes was deliuered at their leaue taking of him. The time of his departure being come, Philippo taking a solemne farewell of the Dukes of Millaine and Ferrara, with the other noble prisoners, the gouernour with the most noblest of the countrey, conducted him on his journey, of whom when they took their leaues, many teares were shed, and the sorrow for his departure, whome they had no knowledge of. Whom after many toly farewells, wee leaue to his journey, accompanied with his guard and the gouernours, to manie

honourable thoughts of this noble stranger.

CHAP. XXX.

How Philippo arrived in Rome, and what chanced Alinda.



The Governour, having lost our noble Philippo, there needed none to hasten him, whose whole thoughts was of his Alinda, whom he had engaged for his returne. As time worketh many effects, so long travell hath brought this noble ladie within one dayes journey of the Citie, her long desired place of rest. When calling the captain and his companions, hee discharged them from their further travails, largely rewarding them for their paines: where the Captaine was loath to leave her, before hee had seene her in safetie in the Citie: but when no perswasions might serve but they must needs leave her, the Captaine making readie the gold, presented it unto her, desiring her to accept it as the gift of his loving friends of Genoway.

Philippo wondering at the bountie of the Governour, gave them many thanks, but no entreatie might cause him to touch one penny, the Captaine on his part loth to offende the Governour againe to returne it, protested by his honour in armes, and faith of a souldiour, to leave it to his disposition. Which oathes Philippo was not willing he should violate, but measuring his honourable minde, received the Golde, the one halfe of which, he freely imparted amongst the souldiours, who accepted it without deniall, with many thanks, the other halfe betwene the Captaine and his guide he equally shared, unto whom yielding many thanks

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for his countie, taking their leaues, they left him on his way for Rome, and they returned for Germany.

The time of her expected returne was now neere expired, wherein Alynda was to proue her wittes yet againe as shee had doone: whose cunning by the good helpe of the frater, took such effect, that the Emperour by his godly counsell was reclaimed from his intended purpose, although the Princesse absence wrought his great disquiet, yet patienting himselfe, hee was content with hearing of her good health, for which hee diligently enquired euerie day of Alynda, whome to quiet from further care or discontent, Valha arrived at Rome, and taking her lodging in an Ostia, sent her guyde to the court in secret, to give notice to Alynda of her returne, willing her in the evening to meete her at the place where they last parted.

This tydings to Alynda was welcome, who was not a little comforted with that newes of her Lades good successe, for which giving God thanks for his fauour, and keeping and preserving her in her journey, shee aboighted with diligence the good houre of her Lades home returne, where giving her attendance, shee hadde not long stayed before shee hadde sight of her, the most welcome of the worlde. What ioy at the meeting there was, with thes familiar discourses, I omitte, untill in quiet content shee was placed in her lodging, from whence after shee hadde discharged her guide, shee was not long absent, where, beeing with her secret Alynda all alone, shee questioned her of all the chaunces that hadde happened since her departure from thence. Which answered, Alynda forgatte not to tell her the perplexed estate wherein shee was at the Emperours wordes, menacing her to let her Lade, no occasions whatsoeuer to preuent him: with the pollicie shee vsed, and ayde of her confessor. At which discourse the Princesse might not forbear heartily to laugh. What other prattle happene d, imagine you Gentlemen, that

are

are acquainted with others merrie meetings, so let you be
more of Edward and his companie, what in their journey hap-
pened them.

CHAP. XXVII

Howe Edward accompanied with the Gouvernour of the
Rodes, and his Ladie having performed their rytes in the
holy land, returned home, and what chanced.



On haue heard gentiles of the recouerie of
the gouernour of the Rodes, by the noble
knight of the Crosse, who gathering
strength and some ease of his wounds, by
the knight his good recure, arrived at the ho-
ly Citie, where they made their stay, doing
such religious ceremonies, as to bodie
travellers appertaineth: where their wel-
come was great for the knights loue, whose honour they wor-
shipped for the service done, in defence of the holy Citie. After the
gouernour was well recovered, and all things to their content
finished, the knight desirous to see his Ladie whom hee neuer
heard off since their parting, causing their companie to be ready
to depart, and their attendants to puruey them of viuals, for
provision passing the mountaines: which done, taking they
leave of the high priests, and the cheefe of all the citie, who con-
ducted them on theyr way, they trauielled without any aduen-
ture, untill they came to the Cittie of Aleppo, where they
stayed to refresh themselves. In this Citie, there was resident
certaine Spanish marchants, who enuying the good counte-
nance of the knight, and the loue was made him by the vice-
roy there, moued with reuenge of his counte generall, slaine
by the knight of the Crosse, after their returne from the wars,
seeking many wayes to intrappe him, and finding no cause or
meane to accense him of any ill, whereby to procure his trou-
ble, hee comforted with his Janesaries, who were appointed
to

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to visit on him by some policie to do him to death, promising great rewardes for his paines. The fact being committed, these hell-hounds whom no conscience moved to remorse, in hope of gaine, undertooke the action. And under shew of kinnesse and seale to him that was a knight of Armes, intruded themselves into his companie, admitting him to many battels, the better to worke their willes on him, seeking opportunitie to slay him, taking their occasion to quarrell for pledging a carrous: which the knight refusing, a scute began betwene them, where he received many injuries, and some woundes, before hee offered any offence: when the multitude growing about him, and he brained, binding his spaulde about his arme, he rest from one of the Turkes his semitarie, with which he made such way, that they helde themselves most happy, that were farthest off.

The number of which boyle, was no less than to the Citty, that thither they came from all parts, to take parts, and to be beholders of the sight. In which, after many deepe woundes given, and many of the ungoverned Janesaries sent to hell, when he could make no more resistance, compelled by the heat of the place, and wearinesse of the fight, he yielded himselfe into the hands of the Iwas, chief Judge of the Citty, who promised him to bee his warrant from all men, that no damage should betide him: on which promise he delivered his weapons. The Spanish Marchant, whom they called Guido, standing on his house top to beholde this tumult, hoped well that the knight had bin slaine, but it proved contrarie, at which he stood greatly, but more grained to pay his promised summes, which for his life hee durst not denie, fearing the Janesaries should have slaine himselfe. Which seconds griefe, caused the traiterous Spaniard to take his further trouble, buying these Janesaries, to lay unto the knights charge, matters of treason in the state of the Citty, thereby to cut him off by law, which hee, nor the best Cauderes of his Countrey, durst out looke in the face, in any sort to attempt ought against him of force.

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These Janesaries suborned by large gifts, wrought others to take part with them, who were neere the Viceroy, and the Councill, which vpon their reports summoned the Knight to their iudgement hall, from the prison where hee lay chained, vnto whome matter of great vntroth was objected, concerning the state, which hee stoutly denied. But those Curres, which had sold his life for money, storming that hee had fauour to speake, offered to sweare by theyr holie Alcaron, that he with the rest of his confederates, biewing the Citie in theyr secrete walks, had taken notice of theyr forces, inquiring by circumstances, of such as they accompanied with, what numbers of men they had, and howe with bitrailes they were relieved. These accusations so vehemently offered agaynst him, the Viceroy coulde not but examine: and finding him guiltie of the same by theyr false iudgement, sentence of death should with all severity passe agaynst him.

The Knight seeing his cause dangerous, putting his hope on him that neuer left him comfortlesse, with a bolde vndaunted spirite, and as one that feared not their threates, knowing death was the worst, thus sayd. Reuerend fathers, Iudges of mens causes, you haue here by your lawes condemned an innocent man to death, for no cause iustly offered, but falsely and vntroth by enuie, and of your owne imaginations, wrought agaynst me. First, by force they pretending loue vnto mee, in that place where they gaue mee bitrailes they sought to take my life from mee. Their intended purposes that way failing, standing on mine one safetie and defence, they haue here falsely accused mee of matter neuer thought on by me. But say (patrones of iustice and honour) that I should haue biewed your forces, what may one naked man doe, where are thousands of brave and gallant souldiours? If your wisdome would but in iustice list the cause, you should then find the wrong offered mee, that am here a stranger amongst you: from whom I appeale to the Grand Seignior for iustice, or being a souldiour and a man at Armes, in your

Citie

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Citie, which are most men at Armes; let me in combat try mine innocencie. If to neither of these my lawfull suites you do agree, the worlde which heares of your brunt dealing with mee, will scorne your lawes, and to your greafe re-
proue, to report your wrongs done a gentleman and a souldier.

The King which was a Runnagatho, an Easterling bozne, and was not to learne the Christian lawes, and good nurture, hearing his resonable request, saide hee spake reason, and called befoze his accusers, unto whom he said. Com-
frumen and fellows, you haue here on your wordes brought a Christian and souldier to iudgement, whom our lawes hath condemned by your reports, whether of truth, or in reuenge of some of those who lost their liues in the boile begun by you amongst your selues, we cannot say: but as I am appointed your gouernour, and expressely charged by his Imperiall ma-
iestie, whose authoritie I beare, to vse iustice to all men without fauour: in which, I hope I haue hitherto bozne an equal hande, neither sparing my friends, nor fauouring my enemies: so in this case, you must vse what lawe of Armes requireth. Wherefore this is my sentence, which if you be souldiers, and your cause iust, you may not denie, that you two his accusers, shall in single combat (according to the lawes of our land) maintain your ac-
cusation by fight: for which, appoint your selues agaynst to morrow, or reuoke your wordes befoze the whole assemblee.

The Janesaries, who least looked for this fauor to be shewen a Christian, moued some other of their friends to vrge against him the slaughter of those souldiers by him murdered, & iustice to proceed for breaking the peace in their citie, being the princi-
pal fort of the land, against the lawe of Armes: which the knight thus answered. Your grace hath heard y^e malice of those people, whose intent, if they may haue their wils, is my life, of which if your grace consider, that what I did was in mine own defence and safetie of my life, hauing receiued sundry woundes, which are yet to be seene, befoze I offered any one a blow: if a wor-
ming hauing no fence, will turne being troden on, worthy of blame may not that man be, which will defende his life, who once lost can neuer be recalled.

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The King interrupting his speech, turning him to the accusers, said: You are to maintaine your evidence, attend your limited time, or confesse your accusation false: which saide, hee committed the gard of the prisoner unto a Captaine, to see him forth according at the time appointed.

CHAP. XXXII.

How the Ianelaries loath to maintaine the fight, laboured the Spaniard to buy his libertie.



The faint-hearted Gallaries, who had seen the feats of Armes done by the Knight, doubting their force, which was farre unable to encounter a man of such worth and experience in Armes, fearing by theyr foyle euer to bee dishonoured, perswaded the Spanish Guido, in friendship to make offer of loue vnto the Knight, who being a Christian, for a summe of money might deliuer him, threatening him, if hee wrought not some meanes for to free them from the combatte, they would discover his pretended end, and cause him for his treason loose his heade. The Spaniard vored at the heart, to see his buisnesse take no better effect, perswaded himselfe of two evils to choose the least: without any more pause taking, accompanied with others of his confederates in the action, sleeping no time, came to the Knight of the holy Crosse, whom with great shew of kindnesse, and many curtesies he saluted, feining great sorow for the wrong offered, perswading him to patience, for that there was no right to bee expected, from them, who sold their labors, liues, and what soeuer for money. And (quoth the traitorous Spaniard) where such gouernment is, accursed is the land, but more accursed the people: wherefore (quoth he) if you shall be ruled by me, that am a Christian, and bound in conscience to relieue every man professing God, much more a man of such esteeme as your self, which with your life hath maintained

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his honour in many places, doing good to all people in distress. Stand not on any thought of your being, or what you have bin, but considering where you are, I offer you your self unto their fauour for money: without further triall or danger, I will undertake to buy your libertie. The noble Englishman prefer not money before your life for being here, if you preuaile against your accusers, yet shall you yet go in danger of secret enemies which will not bee satisfied before they haue your life. I speake as a friend, whose welfare I esteeme. Therefore with wisdome censure of your good, by being counselled, or your peril by being too headstrong: if you accept of my profer, I will take order for your libertie, without any charge of yours: which don, you shall presently be transported to Valencia, a famous citie of Spaine, my ship being readie fraughted for that place, attending but a fayre wind. The knight which during his long perambulation, had considered of his speech, he was persuaded he spake but truth, yet could not indage his secret intent, which made him that hee thought not of any euill to bee pretended by him that professed conscience and christianitie, making this account, that he were better howsoeuer, to be with Christians, then in the hands of such reprobates, being but a money matter, which by his friends, where soeuer he became, might shortly be procured. Therefore, with many kind courtesies returning hartie thanks to his traiterous friend, he sayd. Kind friend, whose friendship offered I knowe not howe to merit, albeit my conscience perswadeth me I shall prosper well in the combatte, assuring my selfe on God, who protecteth his people, yet for regards of these my followers heere present, as for my libertie, I accept your offer, which I will requite, raising the mightiest Prince of Christendome to rewarde thee with thanks, and my selfe with large summes, to satise thy debt: wherefore if you intende what you say, speake about it, that I may know to what euent our friendship will last.

The Spaniard glad to heare his purposed determination grow to so good a passe, embracing him, like a serouice Iudas, whom he sought to betray, besought him not to delay in any

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thing, for all the goodes he had there at his disposing. And so
 for that time taking his solemne farewell, he left the knight to
 many conceited thoughts of his newe professed friend, him-
 selfe expecting to finde the traiterous Janesaries, who were as
 false of his good successe in his businesse, longing to heare
 what would become of it, whether the knight determined
 to trie the cause by fight, or otherwise by friendship ende it,
 as the next Chapter shall shew you.

C H A P T E R X X I I I

How the traiterous Spaniard Guido, compounded with the
 Bashaw for the Knights libertie, with his departure to-
 wards Spaine, and what then chanced.



Never was the tidings of pardon more
 welcome to the condemned prisoner, ex-
 pecting death, then this good consent of
 Edward to Guido, who travailling in care
 as the painefull woman labouring with
 child by birth, was in a moment freed
 from that painfull estate. Where with
 a heartie and merry joy heere overcome, his tongue be-
 traying his hearts content, making small stay, but Iudas
 like (as a Spaniard practising treason) taking his farewell, hee
 looketh not behinde him, untill hee came to the lodging of the
 Janesaries, unto whom he came not before he was long loo-
 ked for: who resting in a quandarie, was as fearefull to trie
 their accusation by fight, as the Spaniard to abide the hazarde
 thereof. who noting Guidoes guiltfull countenance, their guilt-
 tie mindees gan preface some good event. Seeing mette, as
 you heare, imagine Gentiles, whether there were anie que-
 stions left undemandred of the Spaniard, touching his late
 accomplished businesse, which might tend to their welfare, or
 that the knight intended ought which might breede their dis-
 credits. Of all which, when the Spaniard had at large re-
 counted

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men them, recounting from point to point each severall accident chauncing betwene the knight and him, with what truste he offered peace and friendship unto him, whose death he most desired, cloking his villainie with such shewes of love and friendship of Christianitie, they all laughing for great joy at the knights simplicitie, and the traitours craftie, spent the time froliking together, untill the next morning, where at their quaffing & drunken discourses, a matter of more perill for the knight was plotted betwene them: whose heart being free from all guile, had not the least suspect of what was intended against him, as you shall heare hereafter, where the Historie recounteth it, and returne now to the Janesaries: who drunk with delight of their glad tydings, wished long for the light of that ioyfull day to ende all their doubts, which no sooner appeared, but the Janesaries loath to be prevented in what they intended, speedeth them first unto their commander the Gato, and unto him delivered the Spaniards suite, and the Ballads which was for the deliverance of the knight for ransom, beguiling the simplicitie of the Gato, with the earnest suit of the Spaniards for him. And offering their good consents, so that therewith contented, omitting nothing which might give liking, or gaine the good will of those they fought, to their wish, all which reportes of them made, was so loved by Guido, that the Gato, moved partly with pittie of the knight, and more with gaine of the Crownes offered for his freedom and libertie, calling for his companie, speedeth unto the Bashaw, whome he found preparing himselfe with all his men to beholde the end of those combatters, who seeing the spacie coming of the Gato, thought verily that they had bene already attending for his presence, and beganne earnestlie to enquire the cause of his suddaine coming so early.

The Gato which was wise and experienced, as behoved his authority, besought the Bashaw to withhold him fro the companie when he would deliver what he had to say. What by done, and they all alone, Gato delivered each particular which the

Janesaries

Spaniards and Spaniards had married him with all his
 opinions in the same, of tending to that those traitours desired:
 and the knights libertie, of all which when they had advisedly
 considered, although they could well have given their consent
 to have ended all matters: yet for fashion sake, they called the
 rest of their counsell who hearing the matter, stood not long on
 termes, but called for the Spaniards, demanding whether the
 motion were made by the knight, or of any other of good will to-
 wards him; which Guido affirmed to come from the knight,
 and besought him of favour therein, undertaking to pay the
 ransome, whatsoeuer they would inflict upon him.

At hearing of the Spaniards large proffer, silence was a-
 gaine proclaimed, and the Spaniards dismissed, betwixt
 them agreeing on the summe, and dayes of payment which
 they rated him: but notwithstanding the Spaniard must not forsake
 his word, least hee pay the price of the ransome with his
 head.

Thus done, and the articles by them set downe, which the
 Spaniard must confirme, hee was againe called, unto whom
 the Bishoppe sayde. Signior Guido, those good parts and
 discrete carriage of your selfe ever since your coming a-
 mongst vs, we have diligently noted, as your selfe in all your
 businesse have founde more then all other strangers, and as for
 this, so nowe in this motion you have made for the release of
 this Christian, whome although our lawes have condemned
 for a fact not to be tollerated in anie, yet at thy earnest re-
 quest, and motion of those his aduersaries, it is concluded, that
 for his libertie you pay tenne thousand crownes, the one halfe
 instantly, and the other at your next returne of shipping
 from your countrey: which done, and hee deliuered, you shall
 alarrant his departure with his companions: the first saye
 shalbe to carrie your shipping hence, or otherwise on his lon-
 ger stay to be againe apprehended, and iudged as before, to en-
 dure the penaltie of death, as already without further triall.
 To these conditions if thou agree, prepare thy money, and
 the Combat, which must otherwise presently proceede.

The

The Spaniard which had all that he expected, having his life and possession of him whom he hated decay, humbly thanking the Vassals for their favour, thought the price was high which he was for his pretended treasons was assigned to paye, setting a counterfeit ioy on his grained heart, he departed to his lodging, where, by his olone store, and his Countrey mens ayde, he furnished the same which he presently payde, and had the prisoner deliuered, whom he most kindly intreated, feasting and ioying with him, so long as he remained with him, how vile soeuer he intended hee shoulde be vsed at his departure. In which time, came the ship, as I haue already tolde you, stayed of purpose for his deliuerance, to carrie him from thence. Whereof, how glad soeuer the Knight and his company was to be freed from the dangers of those belhounder, yet was his exchange little amended, as you shall hereafter knowe further. Twelue nowe heere resteth to shew you his imbarquing from thence, what successe he hadde, and of his Trayterous blage at Sea, by Guydoes command, you must a while pardon, to heare of the Arriuall of the Gouernour of Genoway, with the rest of his Nobilitie at Rome.

Q. CHAP.

[illegible]

CHAP. XXXIIII

How the Governour of Genoway holding his word with the counterfeit Knight arrived in Rome, and of their entertainment.



It is here remembred, that Vallia in her knights attyre, after she had by her pollicie and valour freed her commons and countrey from the tyrannie of the Dukes of Florence, as you have heard, inoyned by sollemne oath, the Governour and the pheres of the Countrey, to appeare before the Emperour, who in the behalfe of the Princesse Vallia should requite their faithfull trust.

The Governour regarding his honour, but moze his ease, when he had settled all things in good sort, he paide his owne sculdours, and richly rewarded his foraine frendes, with the spoyle of his enemies, to every mans good content, having pursued a rich and most sumptuous trayne to accompanie him: taking good order for the state and welfare of his commons, attended with the cheefest Lords and gentles of the countrey, he left the Cittie and by easie iournies, passed on the way to Rome beguiling the wearinesse of theyr iourney with sundry pastimes and sports, untill they came by long and diligent trauaile to drake towards the Cittie, when by theyr messengers, they aduertised the Emperour of theyr coming: unto whome they all were most heartily welcome, as was manifest by the fauourable and kinde entertainment of theyr tydings bringer: At home the Emperour most honourably feasted, dooing him all the honour that coulde bee deuised. With this newes, the Emperour could not bee quiet vntill

be

hee hadde aduertised the Princesse Vallia with the same: who knowing better then the Emperour, the onely cause of theyr coming, settled a thewe of much gladnesse at the hearing thereof: then questioning the occasions that brought them thither, wherewith the Emperour was nothing acquainted.

The Emperour when he had imparted his newes to the Princesse, summoning his state, and principall of his most honourable counsell, gave straight charge, for the royall entertainment of those states, in the most honourable and best sort that might be devised: taking the like order, that all things with such company as hee appointed should be ready. The next morning by rising of the sunne, they were hoisted to meete those noble strangers on the way, which accordingly was done in the most gallantest order that ever could be devised.

This done, sending theyr couriers before to give notice of theyr neare approaching, they left the Citie, ryding nere, untill the sunne had brought the mid day to an ende. At which time, the first intelligencer gave worde, they had descryed them without tenne miles: and so as on their journey they drew nere, they were ever aduertised, as time bringeth the matters of most moment to ende, so these states had ende of theyr desires; time and travails bringeth both companies, in viewe one of the other, to their great delights: at which enter-viewing a pleasure it was to beholde the youthfull troupe of nobles and gentles, how gallantly they demeaned themselves, doing many brave and commendable feates on their horses, on both sides deserving such praise as was admirable. In this sort doing theyr kinde courtesies they passe by eyther company, untill the governour mette the Emperour: who prostrating himselfe on his knee, hee drew nere the Emperour offering to kisse his sytrophe: which in no wise the most courteous Emperour woulde suffer, but taking him with great love and honour from the ground, bid him often

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times heartlie welcome to these confines, which shewes of loue, the Governour and his people very well accepted, in such manner, as the ioy thereof enforced them to shedde many tears.

This done, and euery Nobleman and Gentleman haue don the like, enquiring the principall of the Governours frayne they equally matched themselves, and passed on theyr way, discoursing very louingly of many pleasant matters, untill they came to a Castle of the Emperours, called Forro Vencencio: Where that night they were most royally feasted, with all belicarye. The next daye, after theyr repast taken for theyr breakfast, they left that place, proceeding on to the ende of their wearie iourney, ryding so long, and with such pleasure, that they had sight of that Citie. The situation whereof, they admired to behold, with the beautie of Churches, and state of the houses, of honour: but that which most pleased theyr delights, was to beholde the most beautifull River Tybres from whose flowing streames, so many pleasant Creekes were filled, and whereon floated so many huge ships, of enestimable worth; and whereon shewed the Emperours fleet of Gallies, who seeming to bee environed with the assailing enemies, most pleasantly, and full of warlike policies, laye battering one the other, with their ordinaunces, and as the aduantage was offered, here they entred, and tooke, then others they fired: and the Conquerours triumphing, brought the others alwaye Captiue, after the manner of the Sea.

No sooner hadde this pleasaunt sight left theyr labour, toherem euerie one tooke great pleasure, passing on thereof discoursing, euery man speaking his opinion of the honorable fight, and commending the manner of the same, and good perfoymance of the leaders, when suddainly Ambushed on a greenes side, where they were assailed by a companie of soldiors, which came to giue them welcome in like sort: from this Ambuscado, discharged they their ordinaunce, and after issued, banelie assailing the horsemen, who suddenly

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Daily were encountred by another companie, which in like manner first played on them with their field ordinance, and after spent some time in shewing their agilitie and nimblenesse in discharging their shots, doing many notable and commendable feates of armes, to the great ioy and cheering of their wearied spirits. That pastime in like manner ended, the lovers casting themselves by their captaines commandement into warlike rings, marching close to the stirrup of the Emperour, and the Gouernour, discharging their peeces in their march with great cunning, they bidde the strangers all heartily welcome, who with great content and courtesie, returned them all most heartie thanks.

When the victorie with excellent commendations of all beholders performed, the soldiers marching with their colours displayed, conducted the Emperour and his troupe to the citie, where both other solemne shewes they were by the senate and states, as well abbots as other of authority, both spiritual and temporal, as for the vulgar sort, whose cries and voyces of ioy might well perswade those strangers for whose sake they were assembled, to be all welcome to them, as to their soueraigne. In this content they arrived at the royall court of the Emperour, where their Excellence Valla accompanied with a traine of beautiful Ladies, gave them many heartie welcomes: unto whom in all humble acknowledging their loyes and duties, by their shewes of obedience, they were all conducted to their severall lodgings, royally seated by the Emperour and his nobilitie, during their stay in the citie, of which you shall heare more as it shall be required: leaving them to their pastimes & severall discourses of their common weale, and state of their countreyes, with the princes: to tell you further of the knight, and his hard entertainment at the sea.

CHAP. XXXV.

Howe the Master of the shippe, by the commandement of
Guydo their Marchant, chained and imprisoned the
knight, and what chanced him.



As so it hath bene in the former history de-
clared of the knights departure to the sea,
where they had not long bene, and they
from the shore scanty looking sight of the
shippe, but the master which had his lesson
before, callinge toge his companie to-
gether, tolled them to follow him into
the cabine, and there to shame the knight,
which hee sayde hee must doe for his and their securitie.
The companie, whose loue the knights courage hadde gene-
rally gained, hearing this intended evil against him, who
loved them all well, beganne to perswade the master from
this intent, which would not heare them, but prosecuted his
will, although to his great cost, as it after happened, for the
master whome no perswasions might enduce from his re-
gion, hauing the chaine in his hand, entered the cabine, with
him other officers of the shippe, and without saying any word
unto him, violently layde handes vppon him.

The knight wondering to see this unexpected wrong
offered him, who suspected no such matter, and not knowing
their pretence, force perforce grasped with the Master, and
tying his chaine out of his hands, gaue him so soze a blow
on the head, as his braine was therewith besprinkled,
and hee lay gaping for that which hee neuer more obtai-
ned. The boate swayne and some others of the cheefe, who
were acquainted with the treason, seeing theyr Master
slaine, assaulted the knight, intending with great tyranny
to

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to revenge his death, and to make him fast as they hadde promised: but for easie a reckoning made they, for he was more of account then millions of the slaves, as with they? lumbes they were compelled to witnesse, for when the knight who took them all for friendes, sawe their intents of cruell, and could imagine no cause, defending himselfe, hee so marvellously bare him, that to the diuell hee sent them all to accompanie him.

When hee had made way in the cabine, and cleared himselfe of those that there assailed him, taking one of their weapons, hee rushed violently out vpon the rest, who fledde like sheepe from a dogge: such was the power of an Englishman in multitudes of Spaniards.

By this time the Page and the knight of the Rodes who by trecherie was clapped vppon in a cabine, hadde made way for themselves, and with such weapons as they could gette, was come vnto him, who noting the timorousnesse of the base villaines, sayde. Unfaithfull Spaniards, more brut then beasts, more cruell to Christianitie then the enemies of Christ: what wrong have I offered you, that thus you goe about to bereave mee of life, whom I loved so dearely: But seeing you base groomes (quoth hee) thus have without cause mooued my patience, I will not leave one mothers sonne of you all alivie, to declare your haplesse tragedies, unless you acknowledge your guiltinesse, and timely recount vnto mee the originall of this mischief. Which doo, and save your liues, or otherwise prepare your selues to follow those traytours that lie before you.

The poore Harriners which were as sorie for the wrong which was offered as himselfe, greued, humbling themselves at his feete, besought him of pardon, and not to impute the blame of they? Maisters crime vnto them, for quoth they, we are his hirelings, vnaquainted with any intended euill: but you whom we all honoꝝ and was glad of,

of our master had any such charge by the Merchants, or other
 man had any motion of his owne free will to offend you, that
 is altogether unknowne. To shew our innocencie herein, be-
 hold his sonne that lately commanded vs, him before your eyes
 will we with all crueltie intreate, thereby to find the occasion
 if we can. And then taking the boy they stripped him, and tying
 him to the breech of a peece, with cords, whipped him, to make
 him confesse what the cause was of the wrong offered by his
 father to the knight. But for any crueltie they could shew,
 he would not confesse neither his fathers intent in the action,
 or where the Merchants letters were bestowed, where with
 the knight was satisfied, and commanded them to rest satisfied.
 But they which were well bled to the boys subtiltie, threatened
 him with death, without hee confessed what they had requi-
 red, which obstinately he ever refused, untill a bold and mercie-
 lesse villaine, which in despite of the boy, more then of trust to
 the knight, hearing oyle boyling hot, besopped his naked
 skinne therewith, which torment the poore boy no longer able
 to endure kneeling, cryed out for mercie to the knight, and hee
 would not onely deliuer the letters, but his armour and wea-
 pons, so that his life might be saued. At which words, the knight
 commanded them to cease their crueltie, promising on his
 word of honour, that no man should doo him wrong, but hee
 would protect him, so that he performed what he had promised,
 and thereon ceasing their punishment at the knights com-
 mandement, they expected now to be satisfied from him, what
 should cleare them from all iealous doubts, wherein the knight
 helde them, for his harsh and bad entertainment, which made
 them hasten the boy to his businesse, vrging him to that taske
 which he was verie loth to be drawne vnto, but perforce com-
 pelled vnto it. He caused the knight to defende the holde of the
 ship, where inclosed in a huge buske, he found his armour, and all o-
 ther his habiliments, and furniture for his bodys defence; in
 which a packet of letters was inclosed, directed to an honoura-
 ble person, neare allyed to the Spaniard slaine long before, and
 master to this Guydo, his last hatefull enemy. The sight of al
 which,

which so moued the knight to pleasure, that forgetting all o-
ther occasions, of minding his Pocket, he toyed briefly in pos-
siding his armes, causing the boy to be freed from his bonds,
and with good store of crownes rewarded him.

Now Gentes is to bee remembred, the carefull loue of
the Knights Page, who seeing his masters small regard of
those Letters, closely conueyed them into his Pocket, with-
out acquainting any man with them, longing to knowe the
contents, yet loath to make theyr secretes knownen to anie
man.

In this Labozynth of discontent rested the Page two
dayes, and more, being verie desirous to knowe the effect of
those lines. At last an opportunity being offered by one of the
company, who in the watch singling the Page, which was
euer wakefull for his knights welfare, he besought the Page
of fauour in commending an earnest suite hee had to his mas-
ter, which himselfe durst not utter. To which the Page wil-
lingly agreed, on such conditions as hee bound him vnto. One
of the Articles of which was, that hee should faithfully reade,
and interprete vnto him truly, either in Italian or French,
which the boy best vnderstande, the true effect of those Letters;
And hauing read them faithfully, with great secrecie to con-
ceale them without revealing the least worde, syllable, or letter
therein contained.

This done, and his solempne oath for performance made
by all holy rites that Spaniards vse to sweare, hee brake the
seales, and read the contents of the chiefest, touching our mat-
ter, and the knights occasion of further trouble.

To

To the mightie and most honoured Knight Don Philiberto,
Duke of Medina, Lord high Commander of the forces of
the most Catholike King of Spaine, in all his warres, king-
domes, Islands, and al other his territories, and one of the knights
of the holie Ciste of Rhodes.

Most mightie Prince, carrying a longing desire to doe
your highnesse seruice, and many waies bending my
studious affairs for some matter of acceptance, to your
excellencie. It happened in this citie of *Alexandria*, to arriue
this English homicide, a fugitive from his Country, who ma-
king no conscience of murder, killed that most renowned
Generall your Nephew at *Rome*, after the last warres of the
Christian Princes against the Souldan Don *Aluarez*.
Whose death, to my harts great grieve I write, I haue often
seene your highnesse with teares to lament, and our most fa-
mous king bewaile, of whose blood none could ever yet suf-
ficiently be reuenged, albeit, there hath sundry attempts bin
giuen: whereof with aduice and good regard, confidring,
finding him in the Citie of the Turks, where I now remaine,
as well to requite the wrongs done to that noble Prince by
him slaine, as to shewe my duetie to your excellencie, I
first practised with large expence of crownes to accuse him
of treason to the state here, and by suborning two periured
Ianesaries, maintained the action, for which hee had iudge-
ment of death by their lawes: yet by the Bashaw, and other
chiefe ministers, he had grant of combat against the Ianesa-
ries, in triall of his innocencie, wherein the Ianesaries quailed
in courage, though I offered great summes for their perfor-
mance: but they dreading the euent, or stricken with feare
of his puissance, who shewed himselfe at the time of his ap-
prehension, more like a diuell then a man, deeing manie
to death, would not by anie offers of Crownes be woonne
to continie what they had begunne, but enforced mee with
threates, in such manner, that fearing mine owne life, if
my

Knight of the holy Crosse.

my pretence should haue beene knowne, I fained a shewe
of most kinde Christian loue vnto the English churche, and
woonne him by my protestations, to become a sutor to the
Bashaw, for ranfome to redeeme him, aduising him as a
friend that wished him well, how deeply soeuer in my heart
(for the causes aboue remembred) I hated him deadly: all
which my fained friendships he accepted for currant, and I
gained his good liking to compound for his ranfome which
I haue paid, amounting to the sum of ten thousand crownes.
And for prooffe of my loialtie to your excellencie, and dutie
to your noble house, make him my present vnto your high-
nesse, with his page and other associates, his armor, weapons,
and what he else here had, not doubting but your excellency
will acquite your roiall blood by him traitor like shed, or sa-
tisfie you and them by his death, in most extremitic, or in his
wretched and lesse slaunter, which all the race of your noble
house heartily required. And so resting a faithfull suppliant
to your familie, and whole alie, and a hatefull enemy to all
of that diuelish nation, of which he is descended, I comit your
excellencie to your honorable wil, and cruel torment of this
hatefull English wretch. From *Alexandria, Affrica*, this 14th

of May, 1591. *Yours highnesse in all humble and loyal service*

Guydo Frederico.

The Page, whose heart burned with extreame griefe to
heare these conspiracies against his Lord, and was affraid
hereby, that all their troubles proceeded from that canker of
humanitie, a traiterous Spaniard, their most supposed friend,
poysoning forth teares like riuers, which restrained his tongues
libertie of speech, after hee had a while bethought him on this
wretched Guydo, enuying agaynst that Myper, and his Pa-
tion, he sayde,

Treacherous and most execrable homicide, scoone of men,
and monster of Christianitie, which under shewe of trueth

hath hatched such damnable treason! Willaine that thou art, in
place where all them that professe God is hated, and where
love of Christ and Christians should be most holie regarded;
there to conspire the death, desame, and subuersion of a
man so honourable and famous as this most noble and well
deserving Knight: for which (peruersed wretch as thou art)
Gods vengeance shall sufficiently requite it; and all those thy
abettors and fauourers in this stratagem; false and dissen-
bling Spaniards. And thou my most renowned master,
piously Lord Edward; how simple wast thou in expecting so
highly a state of no more worth then this vilden treacherous
bawling in thy simple breast the serpent that sought thy life, not
like a man in any valorous manner; but like a Spaniard, by
treason and subornation of perjurie; for money; buying and
selling him, whose worth is more worth then Spaine, and all
whatsoever is resident within the territories of that accu-
sed Nation. But why spende I time exclaiming on thee and
them that sought thy Lordes life; and acquaint not his honour
with those practices of this flauie borne Spaniard; this Iudas
that betrayed the life of this so renowned Knight; that hee
knowing the treasons conspired against him; may first on
these Villaines of that crede and cursed fellowship, bee ex-
treameley reuenged; and after on all those Vipers, till hee
hath rooted from the earth all such as carrie but the name of
Spaniardes. So should the broode and spring of treason bee
pulled vpp by the roote, and those aspiring enemies, which
seek by treachery to subvert Kingdomes; and by coynge to
draw subiectes duties from theyr Soveraignes. Buying
kings, and Countreys for money, be layde open to their cur-
sed and diuelish practices: from whose deceytes, fayre promi-
ses, and high conspiring treasons; God keepe euery Eng-
lish heart, confounde in his wrath all those practices they in-
fende against the state; and commons of my blessed and
peaceable Countrey England. Whylest he was in his iudic-
tue against Spaine and Spaniards, the Knight whome
regarde of his welfare kept from sleepe, hearing all quiet
abroad,

Knight of the Holy Crosse.

Abdono, and the night came and laye, left his loathsome Cab-
bin to take the ayre, and coming on awares by the page,
heard the conclusion of his long perambulation: with which he
desired to be acquainted. But the page on the moraine being
taken, though he would, could not colour with any sheld those
exercises. But drawing those letters, whose contents he so
lately had knowledge off, besought his Lord with very ear-
nest suite to peruse them, and as he found, so to take heed how
he or any Englishman hereafter, trust any traitorous Span-
ish. The knight mulling what moved the page to these hu-
mours, retysed againe to his Cabine, calling for a light: read
their contents, which moved his patience, and cloyed him with
melancholie, so whith he leaue him.

CHAP. XXXVI.

How the Gouvernour and Nobles of Genoway, in triumph
before the Emperour had knowledge of their Champion
Don Philippo, and what chanced.



I hath been recounted, of the honourable
entertainment of the gouvernour and his
company, with the honours done them by
the Emperour, who in fauour of the Prin-
cesse Alinda, graced them with all the
kindnesse and hono: that might extend to
strangers and the subiects of his beloved
friend: These noble strangers renowned
in the Court, passing the time with all honourable pastimes,
night and day, which could be deuised. Many waies by their
own fauourers and followers, they diligently enquired of their
champion Philippo, as well to thanke him for his seruice, em-
ployed for their good, and freeing them from their enemies, as
to grace him with the Emperour, by their good reports of his
deserts, which albeit they had often acquainted the Emperour
with

loath all, yet was not that sufficient recompence as they thought for a man of such worth, and his desert. His strange-
helle of the knight caused many doubts to arise among them,
for that hee had ioynd them on their honours to make theyr
apperance before his Emperiall maiestie, and he absent, whom
they with such louing desire wished to see. But if they grete
perplexed thereat, iudge the Emperours discontent, who
measuring all honourable actions, especially the forward
aduenturing souldiour, was more moued at his silence and
concealing himselfe then the rest, and the more for that his
service in a time of such danger and hazard of the whole
seignorie, hadde for his friends benefit and good of the whole
Dukedome, beene so employed, that amongst his cogitations
and thoughts of discontent, ioyed in hearing the honourable
aduentures of the knight, so largely recounted.

Resting thus in an extasse, often moued to melancholie,
through the knights absence, whom he more desired to know,
then to enjoy great riches, the nobles and hee in their secret
conference many wayes deuised howe they might attaine
what they so earnestly wished, in the ende, after manie ima-
ginations howe to effect their purpose, the Emperour be-
ing verily perswaded hee was not of his Court, that hadde
for honour of his excellencie fauoured him with the title of
one of his knights, for that by their description hee could
enquire none such, so hee resident in the Cittie, or might
for any enquire, finde any hope of, neuer knowing him,
yet as the desirous minde louing to effect his purpose, lea-
ueth no way vnsearched, halve hard or vnlkely suc-
cer.

The Emperour bethought him to proclaime a generall
challenge at armes, appoynting great prizes for them that
best deserved them, believing verily that if hee were either
in his Court or his regiment, hee could not beeing a man
at armes, holde himselfe in secret from a place where honour
was to be gayned: Whereof the whole estate concluding, the
carrels were dispatched to all Cities within the empire, procla-
ming

being very diligently the triumph which was to be holden before the Emperour, at tilt, turney and barriers, with their several prizes.

Alinda which had often conference with the nobles of her country, took great pleasure to heare them discourse the honour of the knight, which although she could better acquaint them with, yet to shewe a minde of honour, she wished to know him, to the ende she might reward him: but all in vaine, the time was not come untill she pleased to reueale her selfe.

The time spending limited by proclamation, for those that intended to shewe their forces, and gaine honour, brought from all places Princes and Nobles of great account, euerie one like themselves, desiring the Emperours grace, spared no charge, as well in sumptuous furnishing their retinets, as in their excellent deuises, and shewe of rare and incomparable wealth, which greatly pleased the Emperour to beholde, who longed for the day wherein he might see the issue of this deuise, and ende of his hope in knowing the knight.

The princeesse Vallia, whose head was not idle, demising what she might best do for her honour, and satisfiing the Emperour and those nobles who loued and honoured her in her melancholy dumps, called vnto her Alynda her trustie seruant, and to her disclosed the great desire of the nobles and the Emperour to meete the knight, which had with such hono^r behaued him in their wars, earnestly intreating her, as before in many erigents, now she would bethinke her how she might in the assemblie shew her selfe, and escape unknowne. Alinda which was not vnacquainted with the princeesses conditions, felt her presently, and bethinking howe desirous shee was to shewe the noblenesse of her minde, took that charge vpon her, assuring the Princeesse that if shee would bee ruled by her, shee would now satisfie her minde heerein, and against the time, though it were but short, furnish her with all things necessarie to her content: at which consent of
her

her Alynda, without whome she was not her selfe, embracing
her, and after for ioy kissing her cheekes, shee gave her manie
thankes, and many bountifull promises of reward, which was
as much as Alinda required, whose care was wholly to winne
and maintaine the Princesse's loue vnto her, as by her dutifull
loue and seruice was euer shewen.

CHAP. XXXVII.

How the Princesse, by Alindaes helpe, was furnished like a
Knight at armes.



Now followeth (gentles) that I recount vnto
you, the care and great regard of Alinda
for the Princesse, who vsed such dili-
gence, that against the prefixed time of tur-
ney, the princesse was puruaide of al need-
full things, horse, armour, lance, and cur-
reler, fitting the most accomplished knight
in those confines.

The princesse seeing all thing so exquisite puruaide, high-
ly in her heart commended her trustie seruaunt, whose kind-
nesse and loue shee valued of more esteeme then all the trea-
sures the earth can affoord, contemplating some time on the
woorthinesse of a faithfull friende, and the deliuerance of
a seruaunt: shee called sodainely her Alynda vnto her, vnto
whom she said. Alinda, faithfull and kind Alinda, in many ex-
periments and great occasions I haue found thy loyaltie and
trust such, that my studies are wholly how to requite thee,
wherefore my trust (quoth the princesse) and therewithall em-
bracing her in her armes of tender laue, bedewing her cheekes
with teares, willed her to aske whatsoeuer was in her pow-
er to giue, & she should haue it. Alinda which saw her Lady in this
humor, thought she looked for no lesse then was then offered,
rendering thanks for her gracious opinion, with pretie concei-
ted parley put off their talke for that time, beseeching her to
make

make triall of those things which she had promised, to her cousin
the princeesse agreed.

Alynda first opening her trunk, luted her first in a doublet
and hose: that done, arming her in all points, she seemed
second to none, but a knight of as great worth as any. What
seuerall speeches of commendations passed at her arming, I om-
mitte, lette Ladies which for recreation sometimes amongst
themselves vse like merriment, censure of the rest, onely I shall
recount vnto you Ahinda her forgetfulness, that having all
other things becomming what she had undertaken, wanted a
shield with some deuise to present his imperiall maiestie, as the
manner of men at armes is. This forgetfulness Ahinda in her
selfe greatly blamed, that partly excused her selfe to auoyde
blame, which the princeesse with a pretty tell put off, saying both
their heads together for performance of their want, and sitting
their deuise answerable, first setting downe one thing, then an-
other, all seeming good and verie effectual, yet euery seuerall
counsell surpassing other, they were doubtfull which to except,
standing thus assured, Ahinda, which was euer at the head
list most sharpest witted, thus sayd. Madam, your grace hath
many times carried good and gracious opinions of me, which
I desire may euer be continued towards me, if now my credit
may be such with you, referre this charge vnto me, and doubt
not but it shall be effected to your content. Through Ahinda spake
the princeesse, I take thy word, and on thy care relie, be it as
thou wilt so disarming her selfe, and attyning her in her owne
attyre, accompanied with her ladies and Gentlewomen of ho-
nour, entred the presence, where they found the Campe, and
those nobles of Genoway, vnto whom she was most heartily
welcome: whom to their pleasant discourses we leave, to tel you
further of Alynda, and her careful regard of her promise to the
princeesse.

CHAP. XXXVIII

How Alinda against the prefixed time of triumph, presented her Lady in the appoynted place of triumph, and what chanced.



On have heard gentles in the former chapter of the princesse fortunate meeting with the nobles in presence of the Emperour, wherein was many discourses as occasion was offered, but among al, whether serious matters for the state, or idle roving prattle to beguile time, the remembrance of Philippo, the knight so much of the Genoway nobles applauded and honoured was never forgotten, for whome they oftentimes with teares, distaining their tender cheekes, bewailed his want of company, and more grieved for that they all doubted of his welfare, by reason of his breach of promise with them, not shewing himselfe to them, which came onely of purpose to miete him there. But to our matter.

As time nor tyde slayeth not, so the long desired day is come, wherein those noble personages, whereof the numbers was great, that from al princes courts where they there assembled, must trie their forces, amongst which there wanted nothing, which to honour and armes appertained, each thing with such cost and diuersitie of devises, as not onely the rarenesse of the shewes delighted, but the cost and exceeding richnesse was more admired, so that a generall plaudite was given the Emperour for his bounty, cortisie, & exceeding cost.

These things ordered, & all other needful matters befitting the time and the place. The princesse which were befoze appointed to bee principall beholders of these pastimes, could not devise with what cunning devise to bring her desires to effect,

ed, for which she grew so melancholike, that her nearest attendants durst not come neare her, fearing to offende her. These passions Alinda well noted, and sought many wayes in her subtile shifting head, to disburthen her Lady of those great griefes: so long devising, that she thought no way so sufficient as to cause her cunningly to counterfeit some distemperature of her bodie, and heron resolving, without acquainting the Princesse therewith, she presently sent word by the Princesse Squire to the Emperour, of the ill distemperature of the Princesse; whome she willed further to say as occasions were offered and questions demanded, of the manner of her agonie, to tell him, that about the middle of the night, all being in their dead sleep, suddenly the princesse started out of her bedde, running about the chamber like one lunatique, crying nothing but on her Lord, Edward, Edward, of England, bitterly crying and exclaiming her Lord Edward was slaine, that she would come to avenge her on those miscreants that had murdered him.

With this message the gentleman being parted, hasteneth to the Court, and came so earlie, as none of the privie chamber were stirring, yet made such meanes as hee best could to deliver his message, which no sooner the Emperour heard, with the manner and strange efficacy of her malade, but nearly touched with the unhappie hearing thereof, he called for his apparrell, and sending for his learnedest physicians, hee questioned of the occasion of the princesse griefe and unaccustomed agonies, wherewith they were all afforded, yet taking advise amongst themselves, diversly censuring the occasion, they delivered theyr opinions thus, that the princesse often meditating on her Lord in his absence by some fearefull dreame, might bee in her sleepe combred, and doubted not after some quiet rest, but shee shoulde recover her health againe. This comforted the Emperour, who more regarded her health then all the worlde, of such tender affection was his love to the Princesse planted.

Now Alynda that had platted her deuilish intention to the
princessse, when she had sent her messenger away, came unto
the princessse, and unto her delivered the discourse of her in-
tention, which somewhat astonished the princessse, and put her
to an nonplus, that not knowing how a matter so beganne,
should be so cunningly effected, but some likelihood of dissem-
bling would appeare, she exclaimed on Alinda, rattling and re-
viling her for her presumption in attempting a matter so neare-
ly touching her honour, without acquainting her therewith.

Alinda which hadde endured more showers and greater
thunder cracks then the princessse could now rattle, quietly dis-
gested her extremitie of speech, but no sooner gan the winde to o-
uerblow, and the heate of her rage allayed: but Alynda which
held her credite great, and carefully heeding her Ladies good,
submitting her selfe to the princessse, she besought her to regard
all their goods, who had done this for her Ladiships good, and
to colour all which, and well effect her desires, faine some long
sleep, that if the Emperour should send to see her, they which should
come might have no speech with her. To this counsell of her old
suresby the princessse listened, & promised to performe what she
directed. Scantly had they questioned of effecting what they
wished, but one knocking easily at the chamber doore, brought
word that the Emperour with his physicians were come to visit
the princessse: to whom Alinda returned this answers without
advisement, that she was lately fallen asleepe, and besought his
highness to pardon her a while, and forbear to comber her,
whom they all hoped would be well amended by her rest. The
Emperour whose carefull doubts of her health, might not so be
satisfied, would have no deniall, but taking with him two physi-
tians, entred her chamber, so easily as might not awake her:
all which demeanour of theirs, the princessse listened heebefully
unto, and with great delight noted the lamentable discourse
of Alinda, relating the meane of her disease, which made
the princessse smile to her selfe, and oftentimes to frame
her fittes accordingly, to the great admiration of the
Emperour and all the beholders, which more grieved them,
especially

especially the Emperour, for that the time of pastime was so nigh,
which they might not with honor recall. His dispaire of the
Princes health, when the Emperour had bin an eye-witnesse of,
what was reported, leaue to awake her whom he thought slept
soundly: as quietly without any noise making as he could, he
left her to her rest, calling a councell amongst his nobilitie what
was best to be done, either for prologing & appointed pastimes,
or performing the, according as they were expected. On which
they had with diuersitie of counsaile, and sundrie opinions de-
bated, it was generally concluded, the triumphs to begin and
hold, wheron a trumpet sounded at the court gate, to giue eu-
rie combattant notice thereof, whereat the Princes and Alyn-
da ioyed much. The Emperour, though his care was great, and
sorrow more for the Princes sickness, yet shewed himselfe fro-
like, the better to welcome the Princes strangers, who he would
not willingly discontent. But framing himself to mirth, as he
best could, not without some touch of heavinesse, he had them al-
most hartily welcome, passing the time of dinner which they
made shorter, by reason of their great businesse, whom to their
preparation we leaue, to returne to the princeesse and Alyn-
da, who not idle, but busily imployed about their affayres: after the
Princesse by Alyn-
da had giue straight charge, that none should
be so hardy to come nere her lodging, she armed herselfe, and
at the time appointed was fully furnished as she could desire,
Alyn-
da being likewise suited, in rich attyre, befitting more the
gallantest Courtier, then a Ladie. After she had prepared all
things and their horses orderly brought to the place by her ap-
pointed, the princes attending to heare of the Emperours com-
ing to the place of triumph, worde was brought Alyn-
da, by
her trustie messenger, which was no sooner heard, but Alyn-
da
mounting herselfe on her hackney with a borne richly bawde-
rickt about her necke, posted towards the Emperour. By which
time the filters were ready to ioyne. But hearing Alyn-
da wind
her borne (as the vsuall maner of pastimes is) they made stay of
their courses, and discharged their staves. The Emperour and
all the Nobles hearing this sudden approach of a post, sent pre-
sently

sently a herauld to knowe the meaning, and what hee was that
 entered the place in such manner, by whom she was brought to
 the Emperours presence, where doing her dutie as shee that
 could well demeanne her selfe, she said. Puse not (magnificent
 and mightie Prince) at this suddaine comming of a stranger:
 the simple messenger of a knight aduencurous, who on some
 urgent occasions hath made longer stay, then either he desired,
 or his dutie would allow: yet not willing to lose this oportuni-
 tie of shewing his loue vnto your excellencie, is now, though too
 late, arrived in this citie, and by me craueth to bee accepted
 into this noble assembly, to shew his forces in honour of your
 highnesse, amongst those honoured Princes and estates. The
 Emperour, and all the assembly attentively listning to the mes-
 senger, commended highly the audacious demeanour of the sup-
 posed young man, thinking his maister to be no other but as
 the messenger reported, and loath to refuse his proffer, with-
 out enquire from whence he was, or of what degree, they
 willing with a generall voice sayde, he should be most heartilie
 welcome, causing a herauld to commaund the company to stay
 untill the knights comming. Alynda hauing made this in-
 termedium to their purpose, made no tarrying, but with al pos-
 sible haste returned where she left the Princesse, who being al-
 ready mounted, attending her Alynda, who no sooner had the
 Emperours answer, but setting forwards, guided by her tru-
 stie Page Alynda, they arrived shortly at the place of triumph,
 into which entring, bowing her selfe vnto her horse necke, vnto
 those she first met, she passed her horse by & tilt, with such a cou-
 tenance, and maiestical grace, that euery one admired, both her
 person, and good demeanour, euery one censuring of her, yet
 none knowing what he should be: comming neer vnto the place
 where the Emperour was, in like maner with three lovely and
 courtlike courtesses, shee saluted him: where staying, Alynda
 deliuered her shield, vnto his princely hands, wheron was por-
 trayed her owne picture armed, holding in chaines three princes,
 which subiected themselves to her, swearing their loyaltie vnto
 her: her woorde, keepe faith with thy friende. This sheelde
 deliuered

delivered, among all the rest
many times reviled, as this, which
which he much admired, craving of those
mions of the same, & desirous to knowe (if they
knight was: The knights having all their companies
the stranger knight, desiring him to make choise of
run against, desiring the king of heralds which there waited, to
read the names of the the Tilters unto him, which he had in a
Catalogue. The princeesse humbly thanking the for their love
and fauor, calling Alynda unto her, commanded her to go the
Emperour, and to craue at his hands, to trie against all comers,
his strength, for that by oath he was so enioyned, by the Ladie
he most honoured, beseeching the princes and royall companies
not to take in any ill part this request of his, which was ready
to kisse their hands in all humbleness. The Emperour which
saw his slender shew of bodie in armes, was loath to hazarde
him to any great danger, so by his too hasty licence, to graunt
that he might. That report, knowing the toyle, and perill in-
cedent to such assays: yet considering his bowe made, as
his messenger deliuered, and not knowing what sufficiencie
the knight found in himself, craued him in his behalfe, the com-
pany would accept him, whereon they stood not long, put grans-
ted: at which the Princeesse was most ioyfull: so preparing
her selfe, with such courage shee discharged on the Polonian
Prince that first mette her, as shee bare him violently to the
ground, with such force, that had not helpe bene neare, he had
beene spoyle of his limmes, so that wearied with this first bad
fortune, and dishonour in the action, hee gaue ouer that dayes
triumph, in whose place met her Armes of Eusran, a
noble Duke, which she likewise foyle: at which such admira-
tion grewe, that there was no speech, but of the white
knight, so called by his Armes, being not other-wise knowne.
Let it suffice, the honour of the day by generall consent was
giuen unto her, whome the Emperour and all the rest, desi-
red to knowe, invited her to lodge within his Court,
which shee humblye deuyed, returning manie great thanks
for

of the
ing her selfe in such sort, as she
ed to recount his courtesies, but
and gallant courage of him selfe in armes.
ced by the Emperour to depart, wee leave the
her pleasure, toying in her good fortunes, and lea-
ing her selfe, and the Emperour, to his imaginations
of the younger knights, what sundry speeches at supper passed
in court, of her honours gained, I omit, let it suffice all persons,
as well that receyued soyle, as others, gave the honour and
commendations to her. What other occasions happened her,
with the Emperours knowledge of this feigned knight, I omit
for that the Historie leaves them so. The third and last part
shall shew Prince Edward his success in all his troubles hap-
ping in his travels: the meeting of the Princesse with her
noble husband, and honours of the two young Lordes, Narcel-
lon, and Constantine, with their conquest: which shall bring
the more delight, if so thou accept this. Till when, and
ever, I leave your pardons and good opinions, to
be censured of this, which shall encourage
me to finish the rest, and ever be at
your devotion.

FINIS.

